

# Getting railway signaling into the 3rd dimension



# About the speaker



Marcel Kintzel

Design Engineer for Control-Command and Signaling  
DB Engineering & Consulting GmbH, Germany

- is working at the german railway company Deutsche Bahn since October 2001
- more than 15 years experience in creating plan documents in 2D using AutoCAD and AutoCAD based applications
- 3D-modelling is part of his current responsibilities
- member of the central workgroup Control-Command and Signaling at DB Engineering & Consulting GmbH



# About the co-speaker

Matthias Kühn

 *DB Engineering & Consulting*

BIM consultant, DB Engineering & Consulting GmbH, Germany

- background as a civil engineer for bridge design in railway infrastructure for almost 20 years
- extensive experience with Autodesk Revit since 5 years
- developing BIM content (Revit-families) and giving Revit user-support within the company
- creating uniform basic principles, templates, workflows and the like for 3D modeling and BIM in our company





## About the speaker

Jens Luetzelberger



I am part of the Global Consulting Delivery (GCD) team of Autodesk since November 2016.





Our group

# Deutsche Bahn

On 33,300 kilometers more than  
25,000 bridges and 740 tunnels  
in the railway network of the DB

Around 7.3 million passengers  
a day on trains and buses in Germany

5,700 stations  
in Germany

On weekdays over 1 million metric tons  
of goods by rail in Germany and Europe

Data as of March 2019





Who we are

## Part of the DB Group

Deutsche Bahn

Chairman

Digitalization and Technology

HR and Legal Affairs

Infrastructure

Passenger Transport

Freight Transport and Logistics

DB Netze Track

DB Netze Stations

DB Netze Energy

DB Engineering & Consulting

DB Rail Construction

DB Services Facility Management

DB International Operations

...





Who we are

4,800 employees  
from 77 countries  
for all technical disciplines

## Our specialists



Functional percentage of production staff, 3 % other (as of June 2019)



Who we are

## In Germany



7 regions with more  
than 80 locations  
Headquarters Berlin





Who we are

Represented on every  
continent  
Projects in over  
100 countries  
since 1966

## Worldwide





Who we are

## Our mission

As one of the world's leading engineering and consulting firms, we shape the world of tomorrow – with customized and sustainable mobility and transport solutions.





Who we are

## What we offer

Advising, designing and implementing infrastructure projects, from the idea to operations.

180 years of  
rail expertise

Cutting-edge  
technologies and construction

Economic and  
environmental aspects  
always taken into account

Always the right solution –  
for individual jobs and large-scale projects alike



# Agenda



Why 3D model for railway signaling?



Create parameterized Revit families



Create a 3D-model by using origin data base and Dynamo



Sight distance check



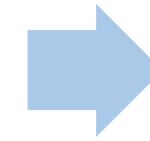
Looking forward

# Why 3D model for railway signaling?





# Classic workflow



1.  
Planning  
railway  
signaling

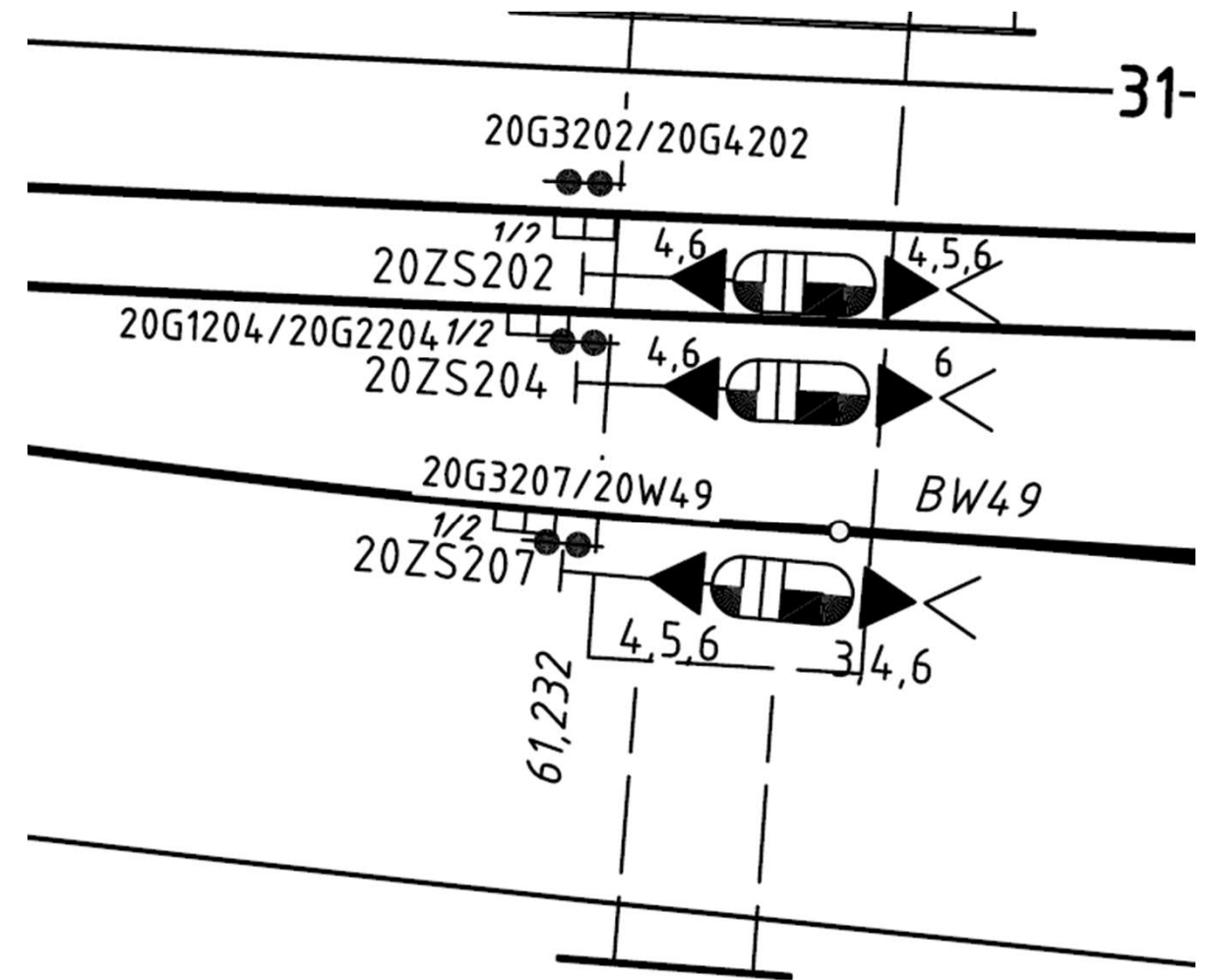
2.  
Producer

3.  
Construction  
work

4.  
Operate and  
maintain

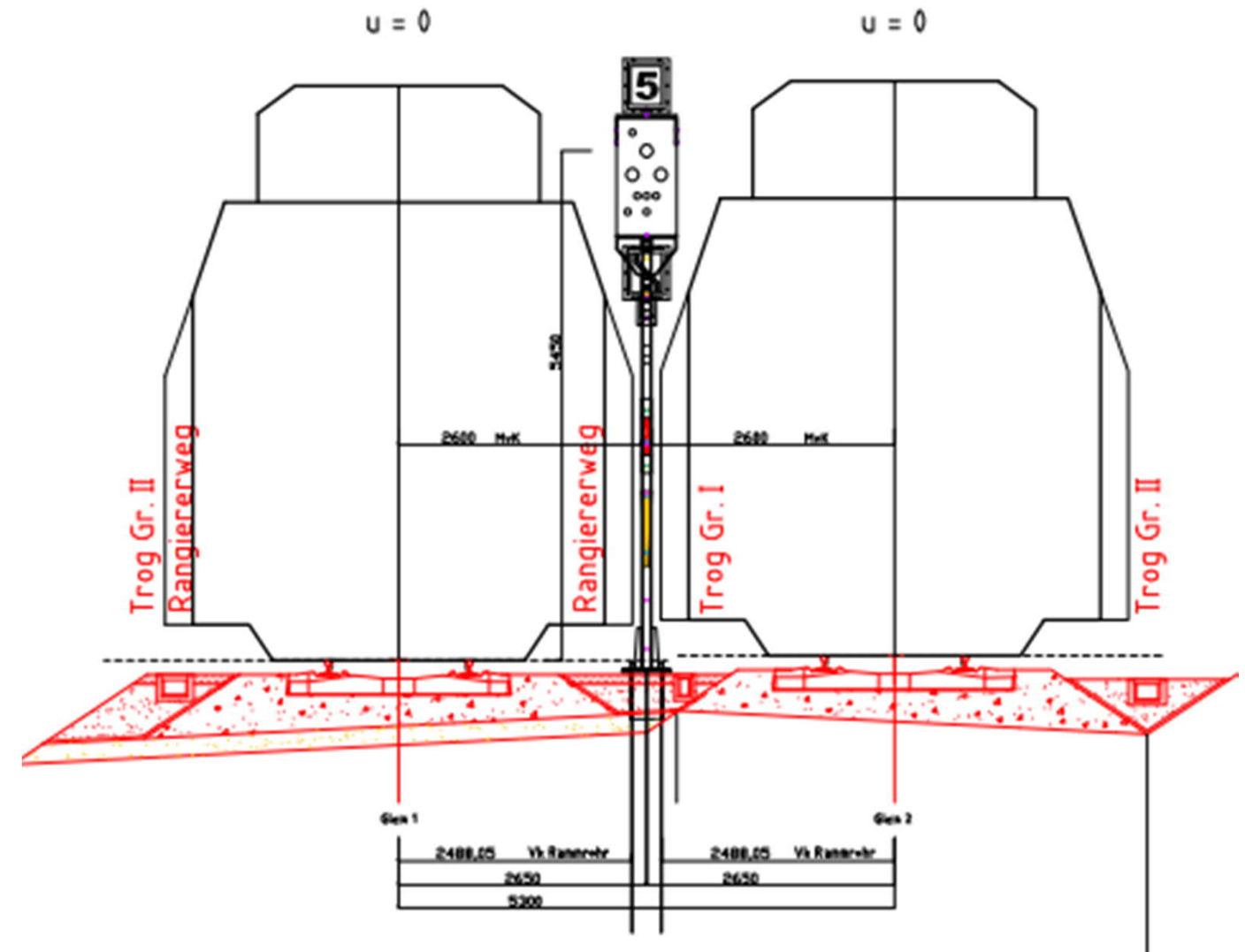
# Planning railway signaling

- drawings for railway signaling are created in 2D
  - Views from top - using symbols



# Planning railway signaling

- drawings for railway signaling are created in 2D
  - Views from top - using symbols
  - Using clearance gauge in cross sections





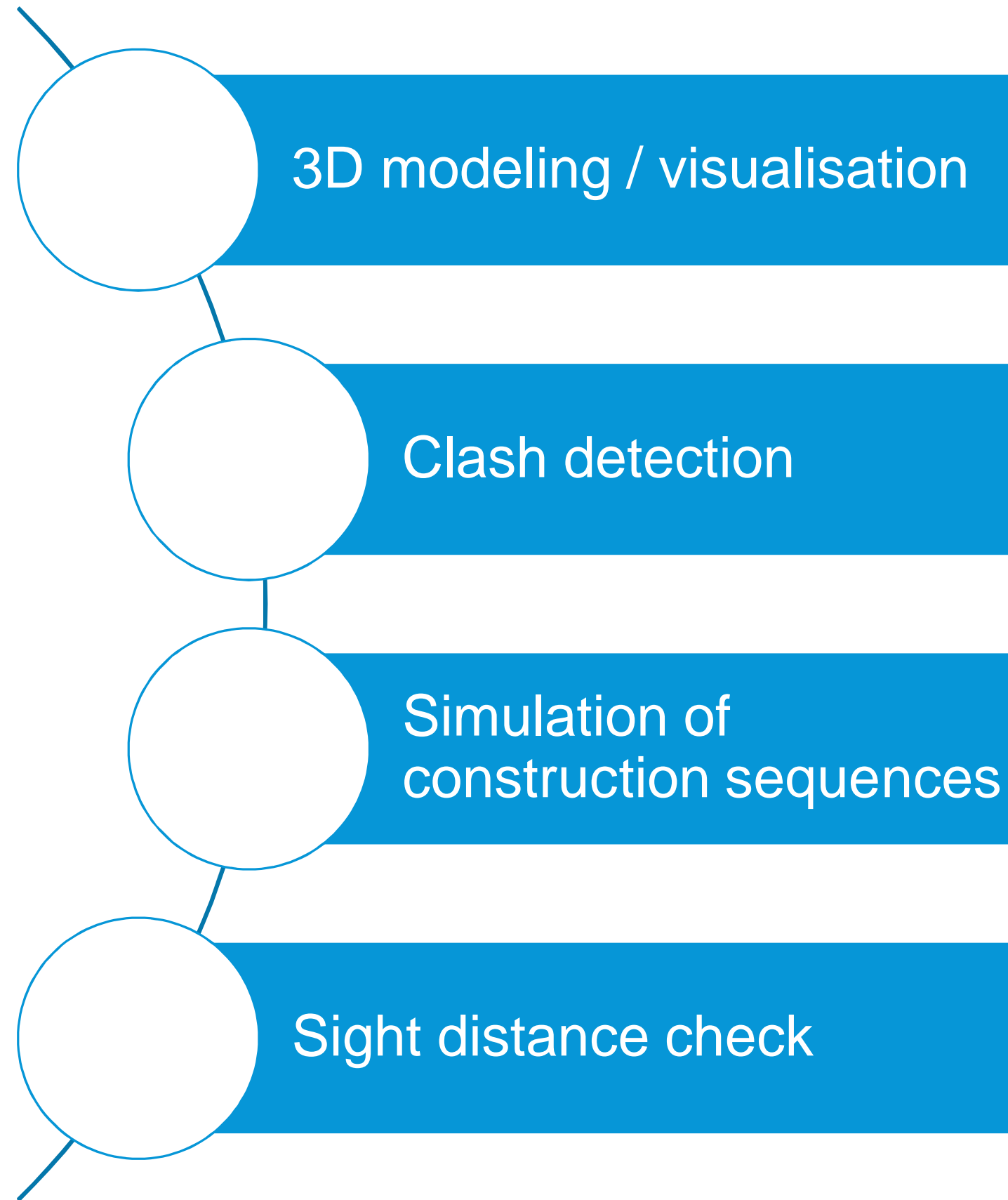
# Planning railway signaling

- drawings for railway signaling are created in 2D
  - Views from top - using symbols
  - Using clearance gauge in cross sections
- Data from primary planning software printed in form of tables

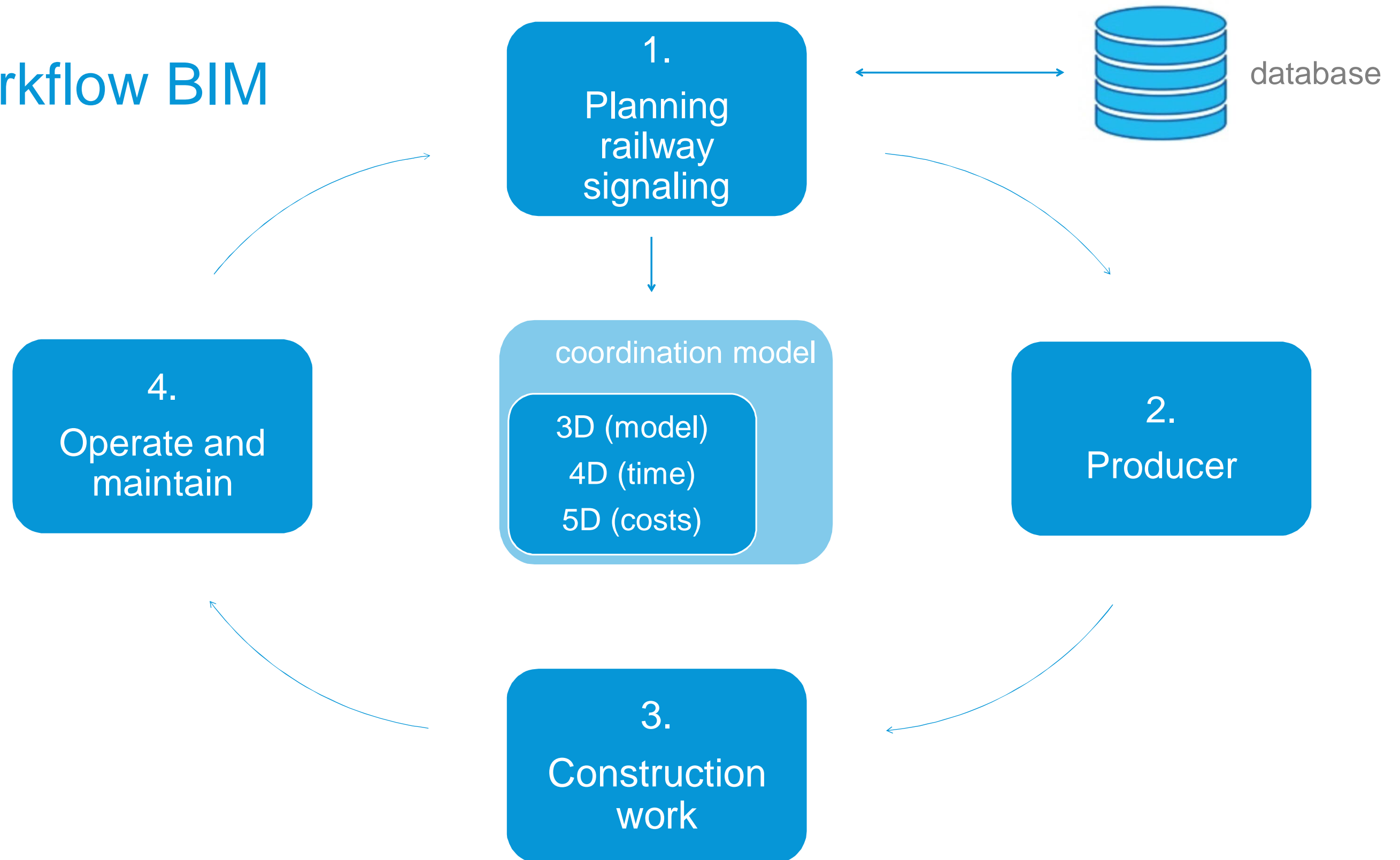
	Bezeichnung Haupt- u. Vorsignale	20P101	20P2	
	Bezeichnung Rangiersignale / Schutzsignale			
	Bezeichnung Signale			
1	Standort [km] / Strecke	62,271 / 5900	62,234 / 5900	6
2	sonstige zulässige Anordnung 1)			
3	obere Lichtpunkthöhe [mm]	5400	6000	
4	Rz S8000.5.x Bild Nr.	1	8	
5	Rz S6250/2440 Blatt 15 Bild Nr. 5)			
6	Ls nach Rz S8000.7.1 Bild Nr.			
7	Signalsicht (Soll-/Mindestsignalsicht) [m]	400 / 225	400 / 225	
8	Richtpunktentfernung [m]			
9	Streuscheibe / Betriebsstellung			
10	Fundament Art / Höhe [mm] 2)			
11	Sonderkonstruktion			
12	Sonderanordnung 4)			
13	Rz Anordnung an Signalausleger, Brücke, Tunnel			
14	Richtungsanzeiger			
15	Richtungsvoranzeiger			
16	Geschwindigkeitsanzeiger 6)	6F	6F	
17	Geschwindigkeitsvoranzeiger 6)			
18	Signalbegriff Hp	0	0	
19	Signalbegriff Ks	1	1	
20	Signalbegriff Ra / Sh	Sh 1	Sh 1	
21	ETCS-Halttafel Ne14 nach Rz S541.1 Bild Nr.			
22	Kenn - / Zusatzlicht			
23	Signalbegriffe Zs (im Schirm)	1	1	
24	Zs am Signalmast	6	6	
25	Zs am Betonpfosten/Rohrmast (separat)			
26	Zp am Signalmast			
27	Zp am Betonpfosten/Rohrmast (separat)			
28	Kombination Zp-Zs / Zs-Zs			
29	Signal zugbedient / wärterbedient	z / w	z / w	
30	Mastschild	H	H	
31	Vorsignaltafel Rz S525.4.x Bild Nr.			
32	Vorsignalbaken: Anzahl / Rz S526.2.x Bild Nr.			
33	Bü-Anlage (HP abhängig) im Abstand [m]	Soll		
34		Ist		
35	Abstände zu Gleismitte von Fvk [mm] 2)	links		
36		rechts		
37	Abstände in Längsrichtung [m]	Signal		
38		Länge		
39	Schaltkasten außerhalb der Gleise 3)			
40	Dunkelschaltung			
41	Fahrtanzeiger auf Bahnsteig			

## Why 3D model for railway signaling?

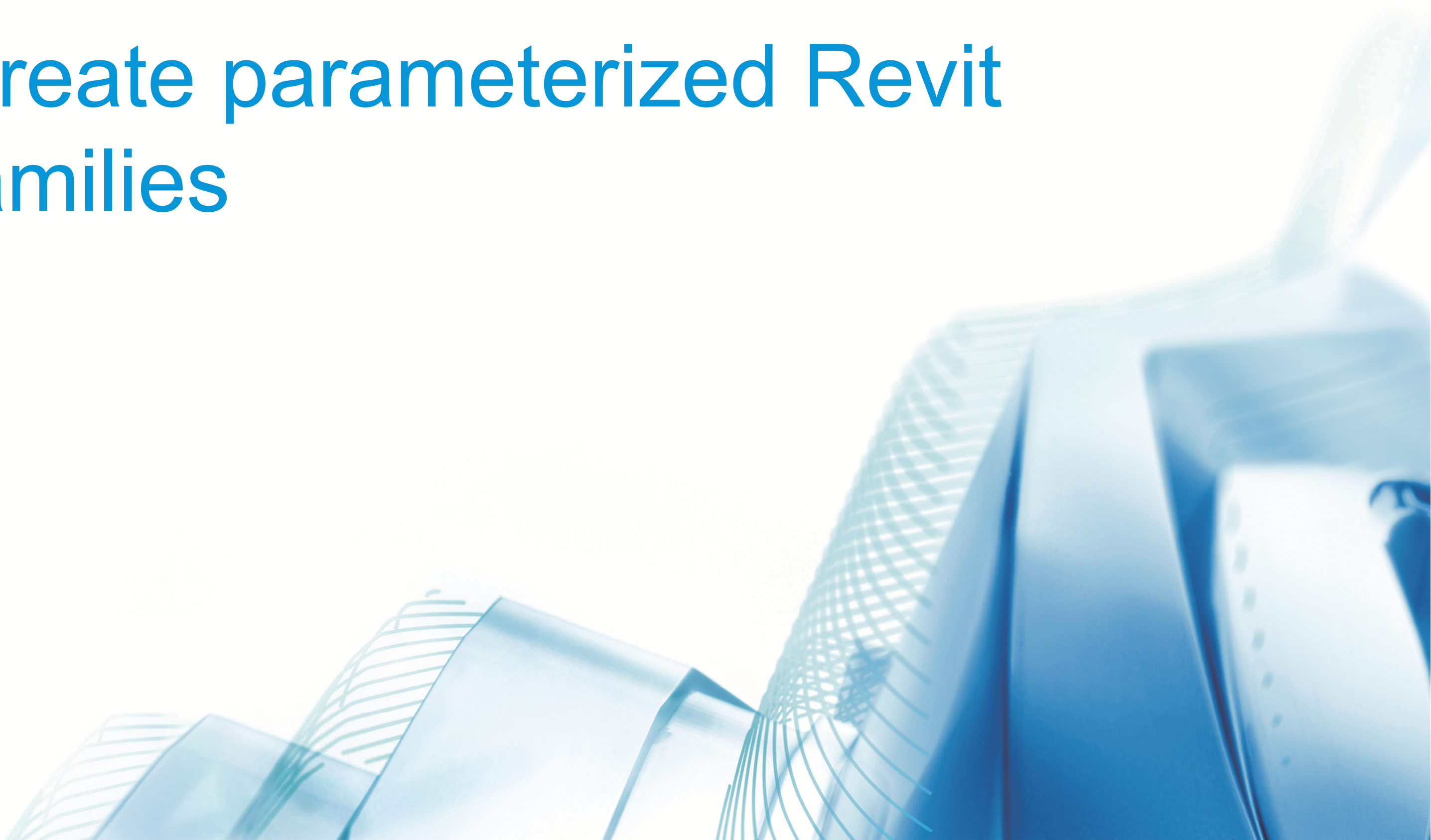
Railway signaling components are required for several BIM use cases:



# Workflow BIM



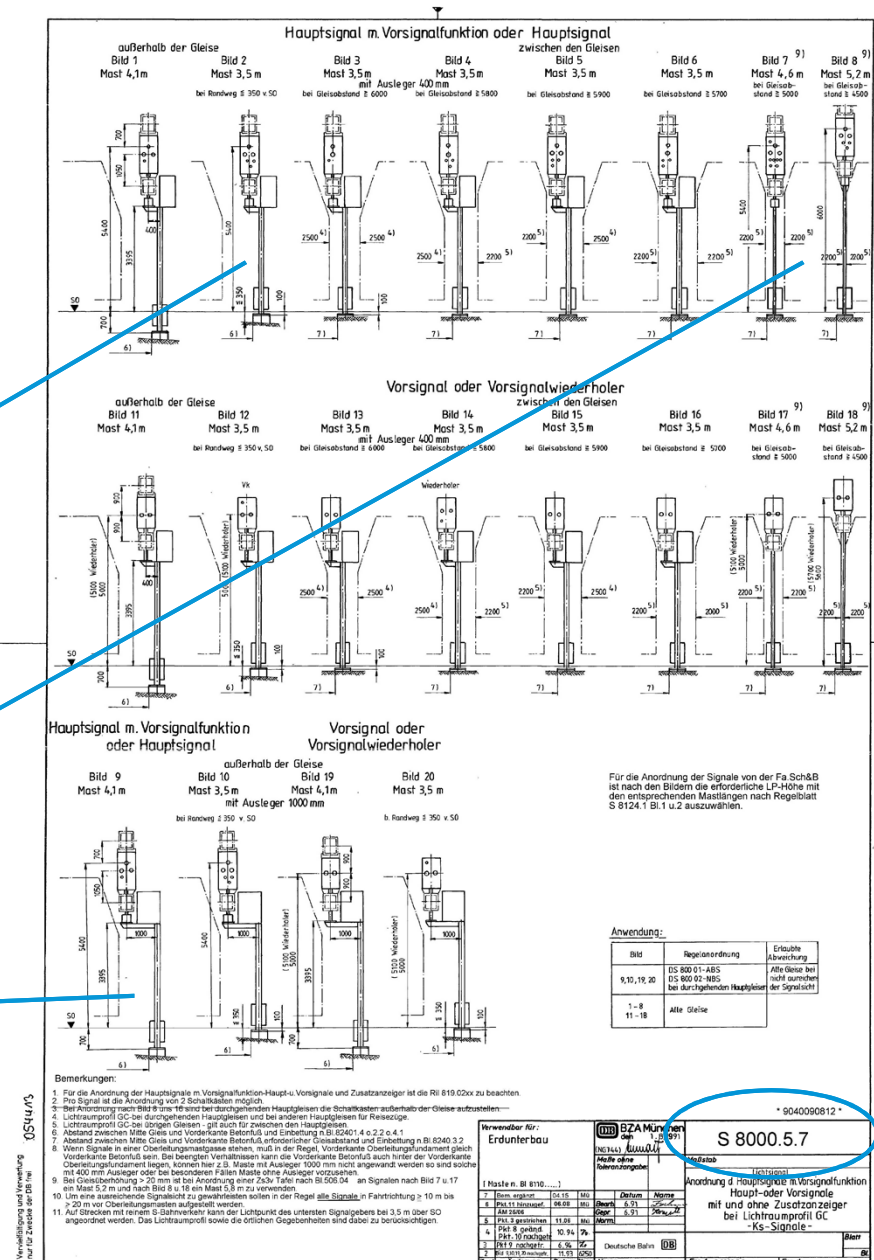
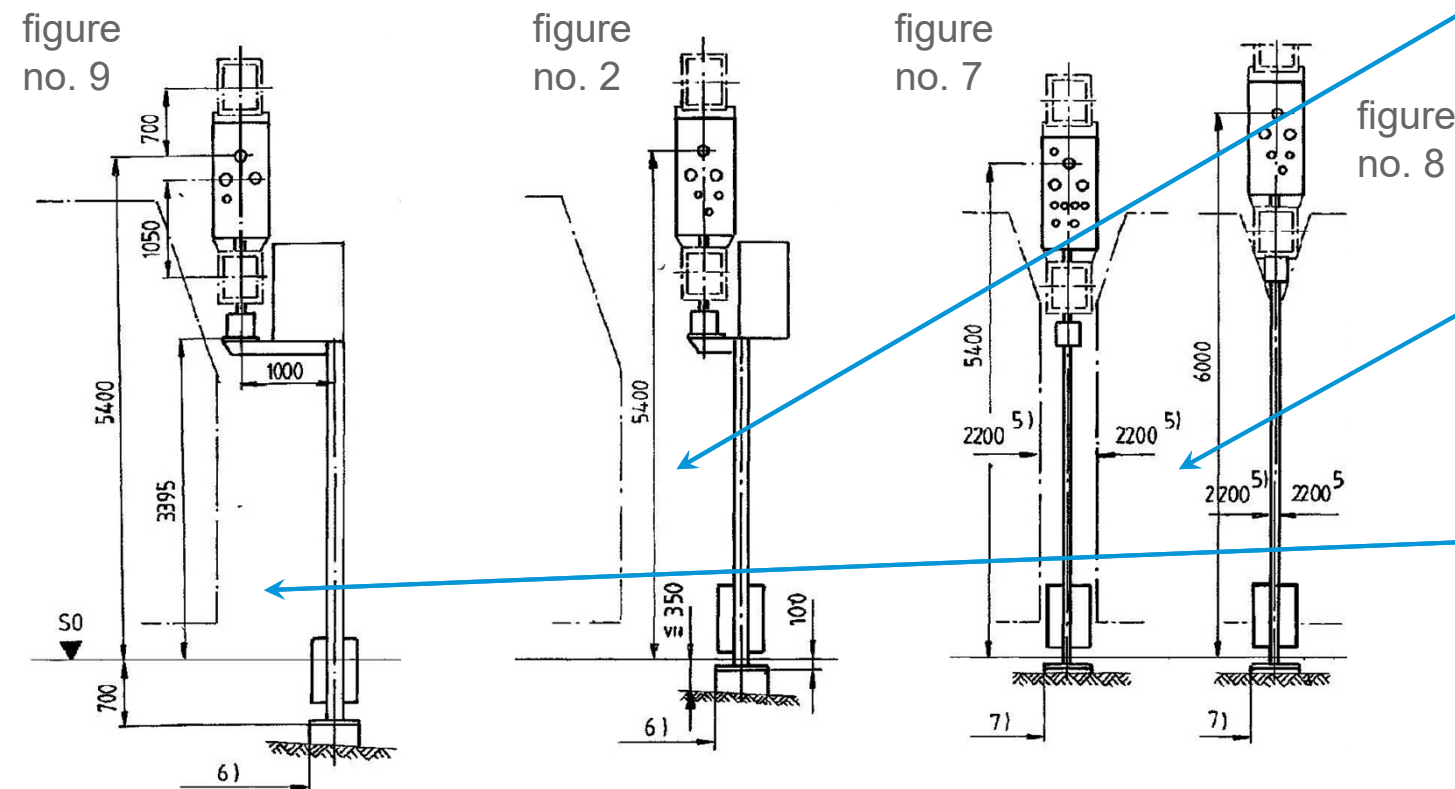
# Create parameterized Revit families





# The initial situation

- DB rules and standards:
  - one drawing (S 8000 5.7) ... **20** different figures of one signal
  - one signal ... ca. **10** different elements



- many more standard drawings included

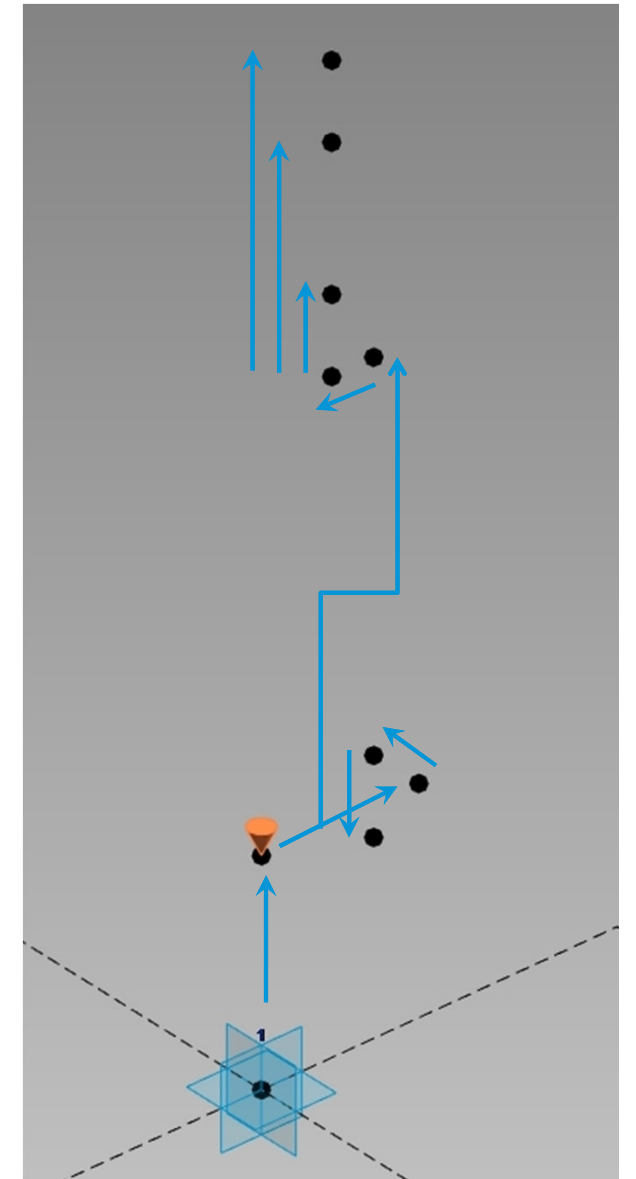
# The idea

- creating **one nested family** with **20 types** and ca. **10 sub families**
- using existing geometries, already drawn in **Inventor**
- placing the signal (= main family) in a project
  - **by hand** (small projects)
  - with an **automated process** / using **dynamo** (large projects)
- giving as much **flexibility** as possible to adjust the model following to the automatic placement
  - > parameters for geometry, position and information

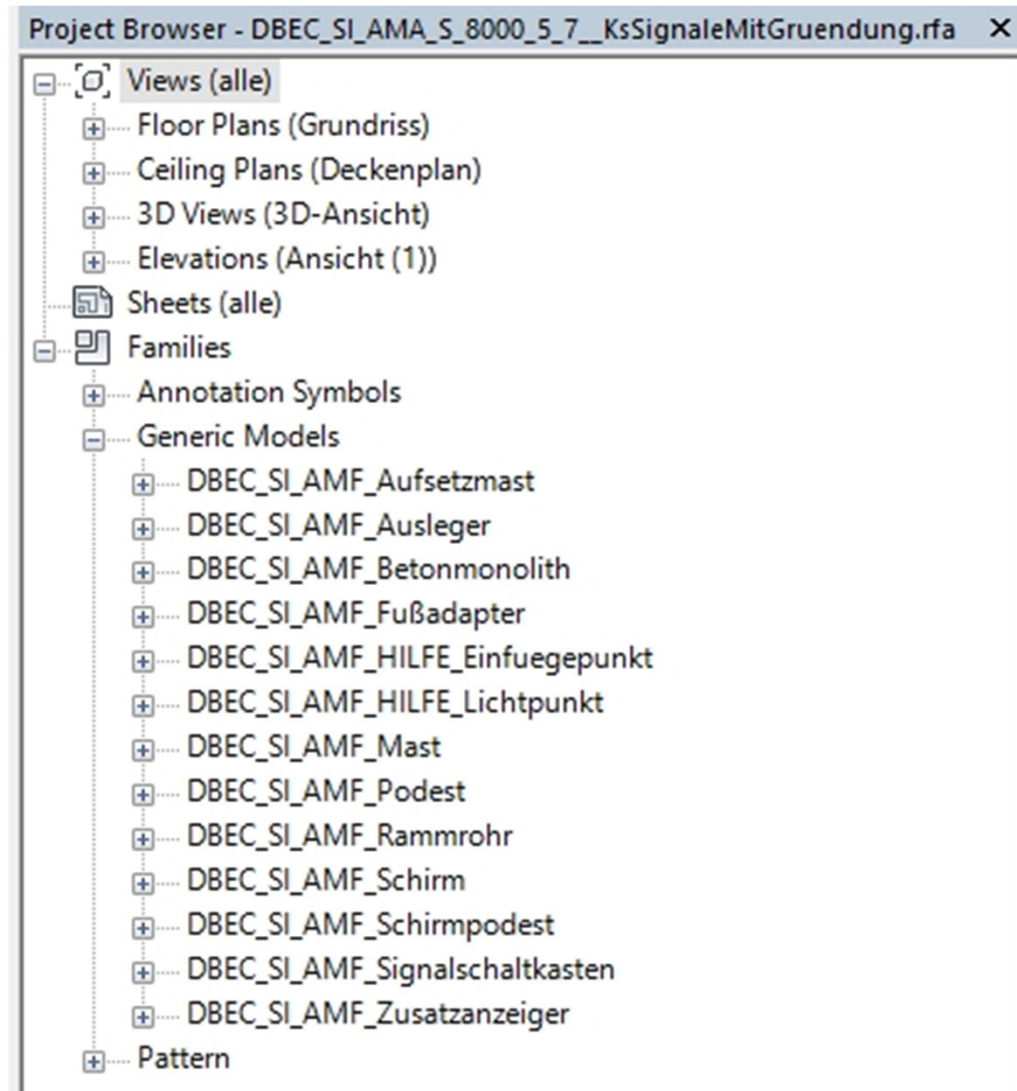


# The concept

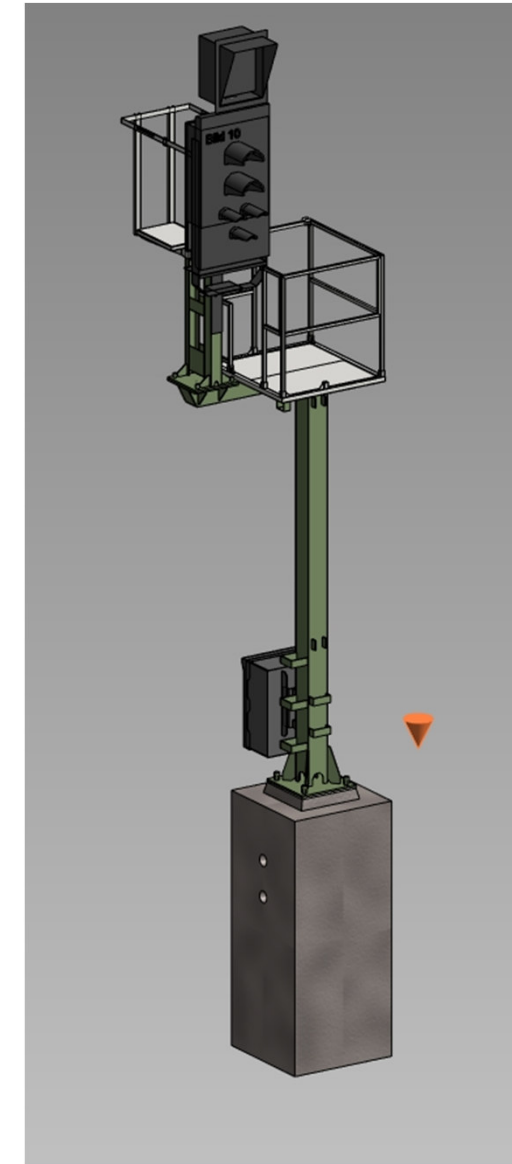
- **main family** (based on template Metric Generic Model Adaptive.rft)
  - one adaptive point (= placement point)
  - 3 reference points
    - > fixed on the adaptive point respectively on each other
    - > allow rotation around x-, y- and z-axis
    - > allow offset in x-, y- and z-direction
  - 6 reference points
    - > fixed on the 3rd reference point respectively on each other
    - > representing the host / plane for the sub families
- **sub families** (based on template Metric Generic Model face based.rft)
  - made from Inventor geometries
  - placed in main family by using reference points
  - controlled in position and geometry by parameters



# The structure



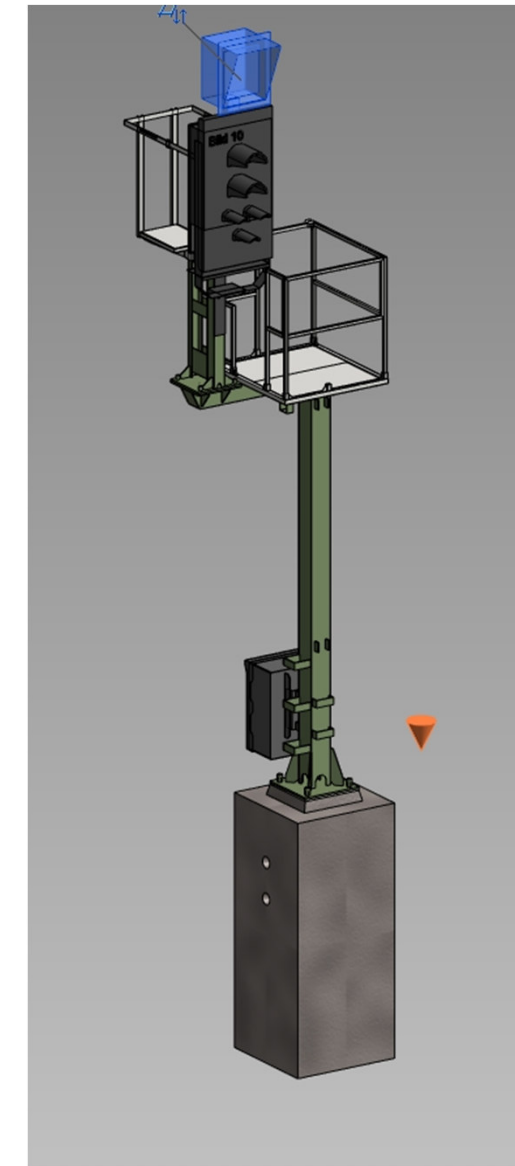
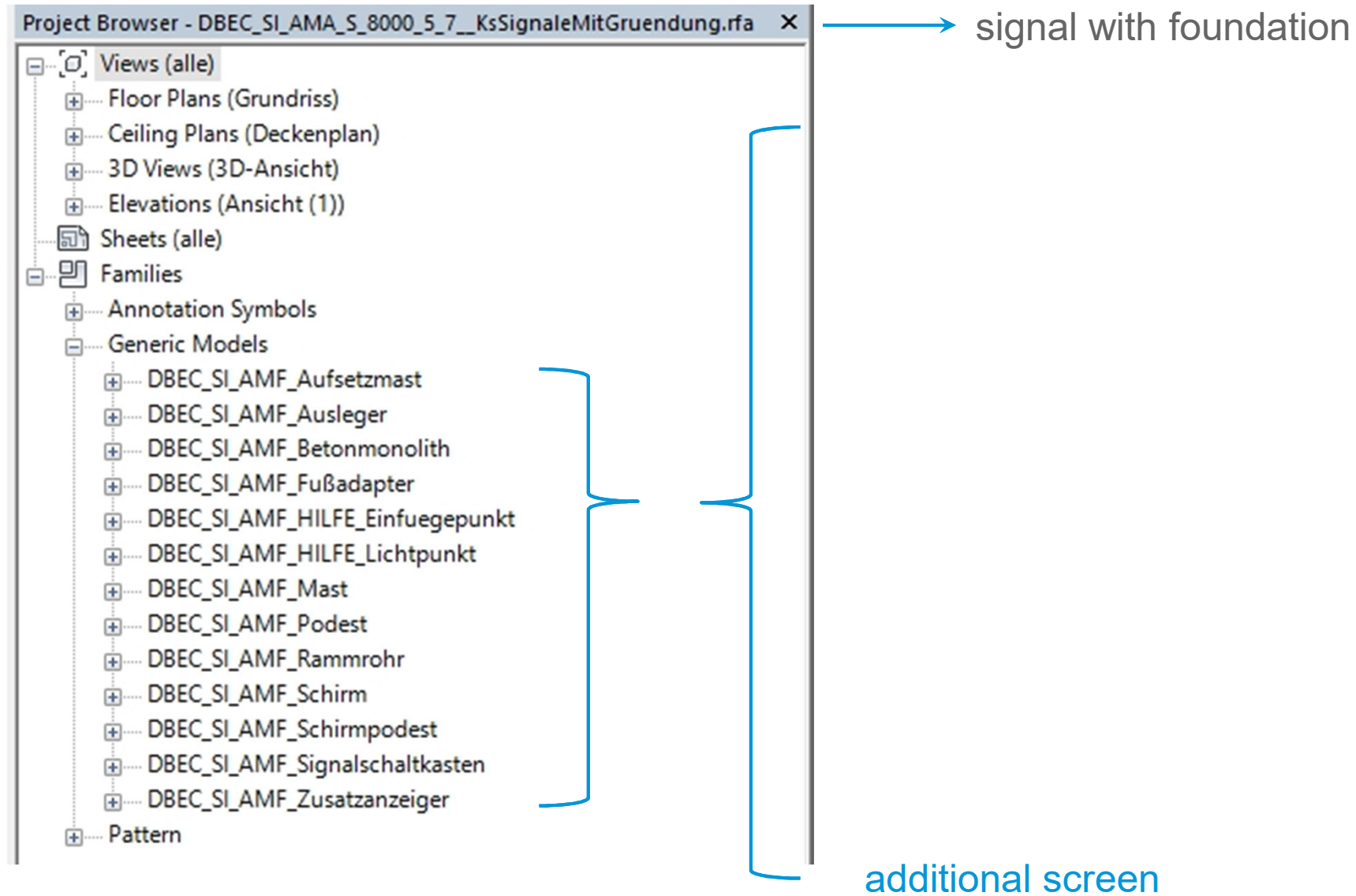
→ signal with foundation



main family



# The structure

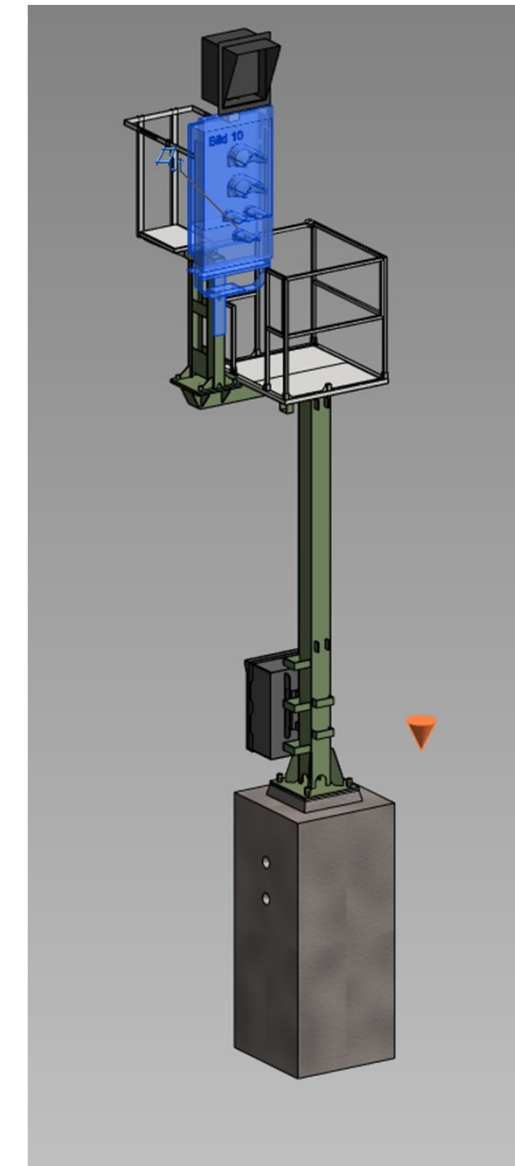
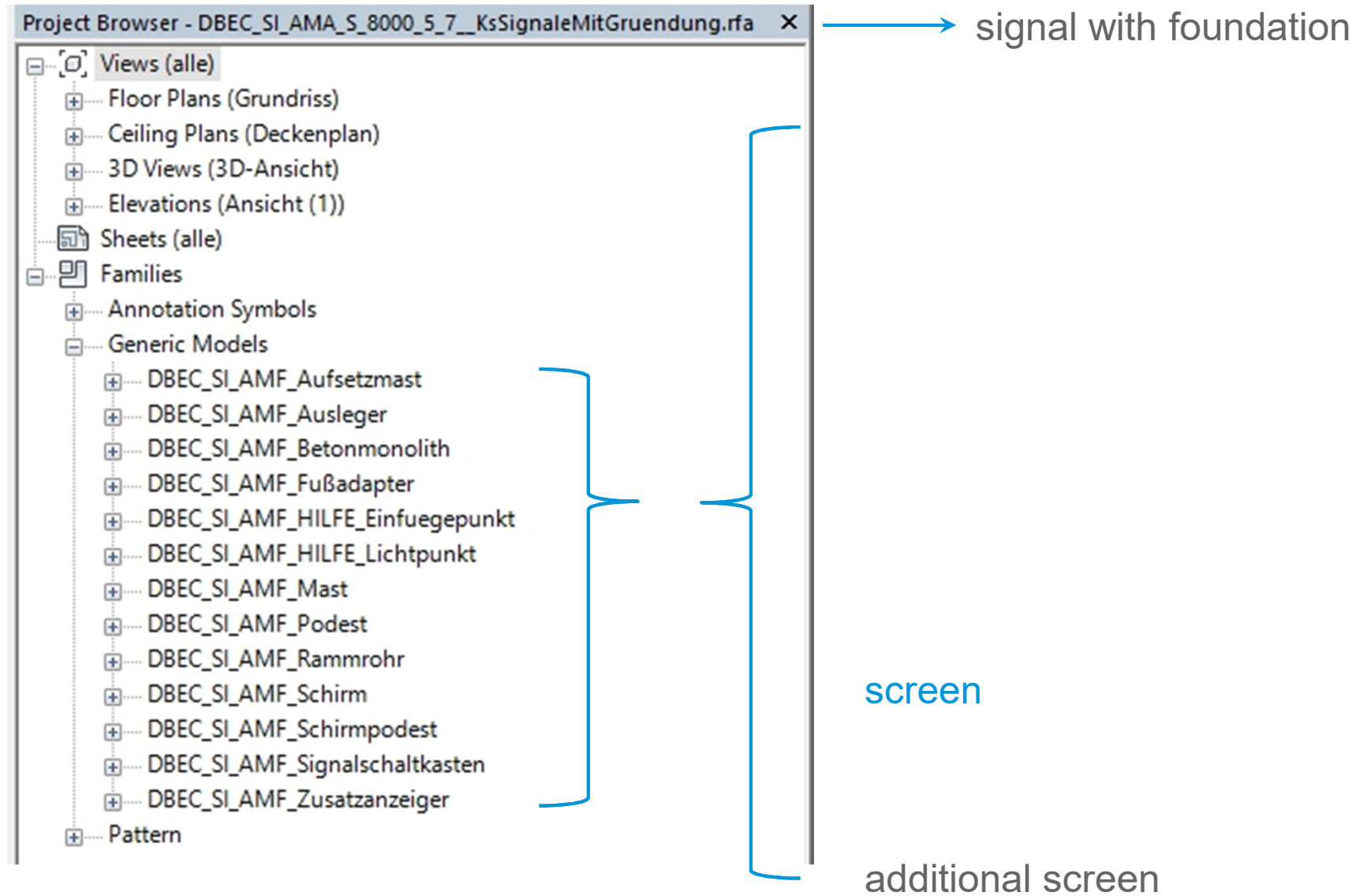


main family

subfamilies



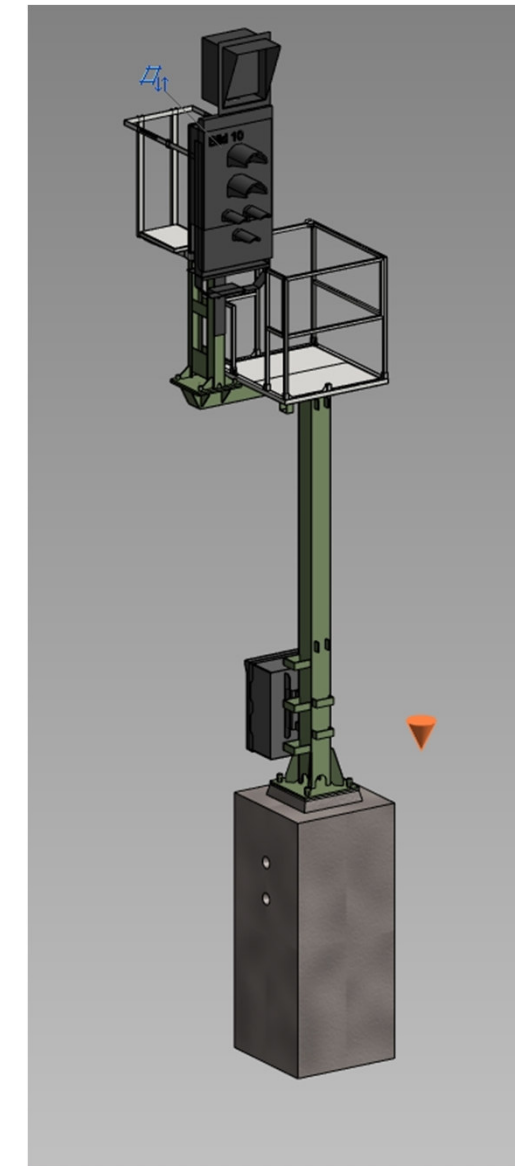
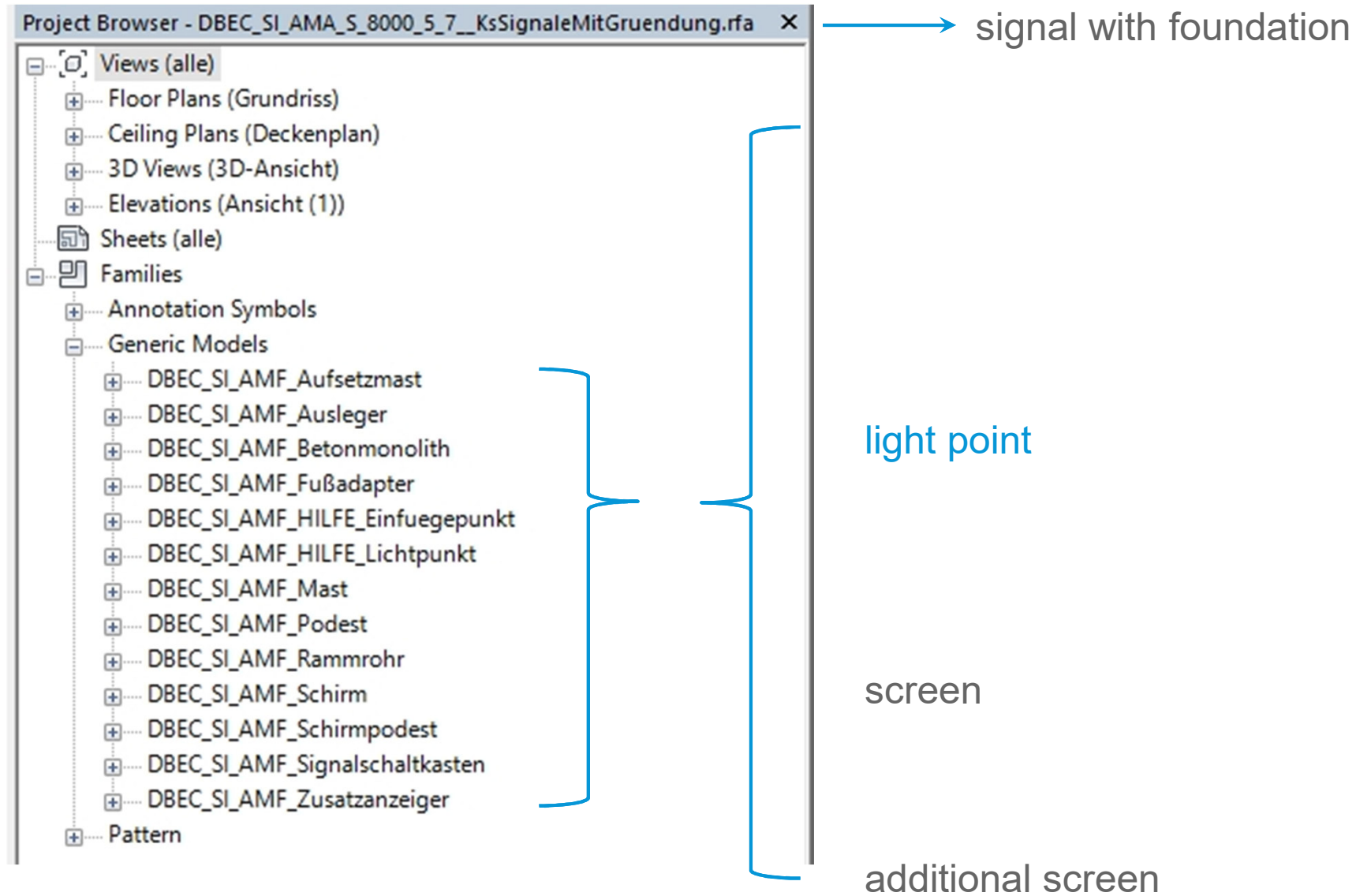
# The structure



main family

subfamilies

# The structure

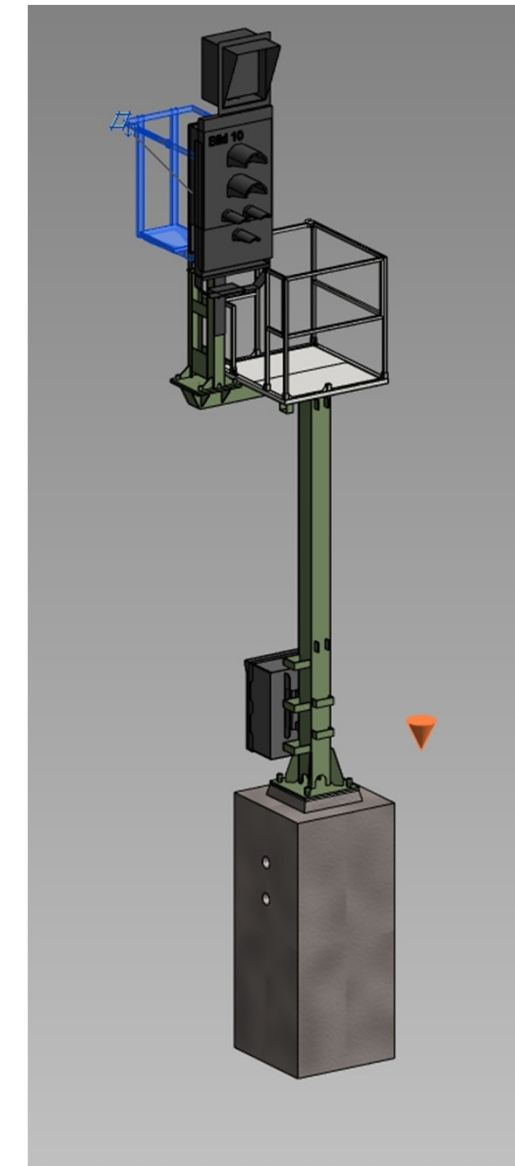
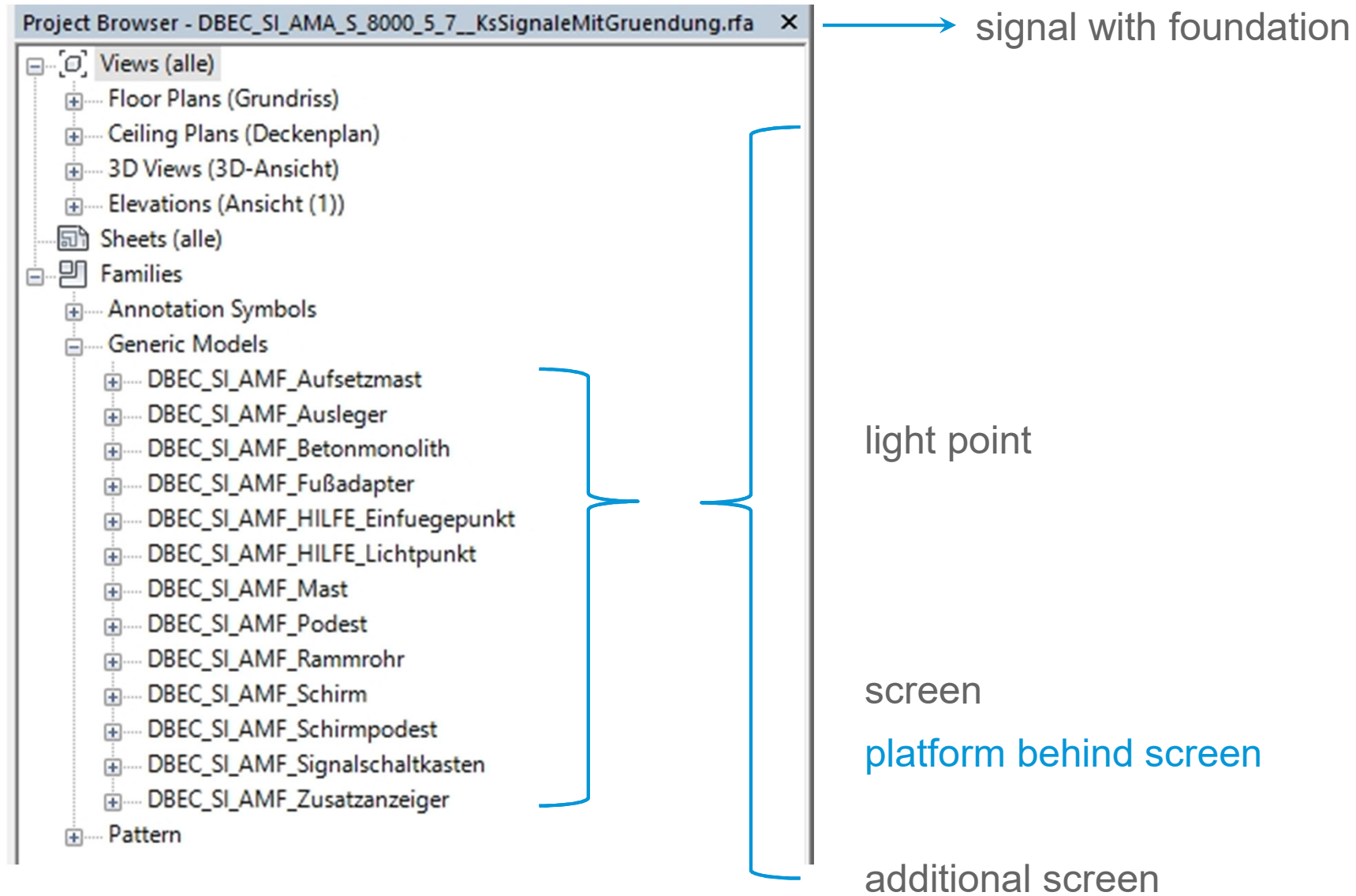


main family

subfamilies



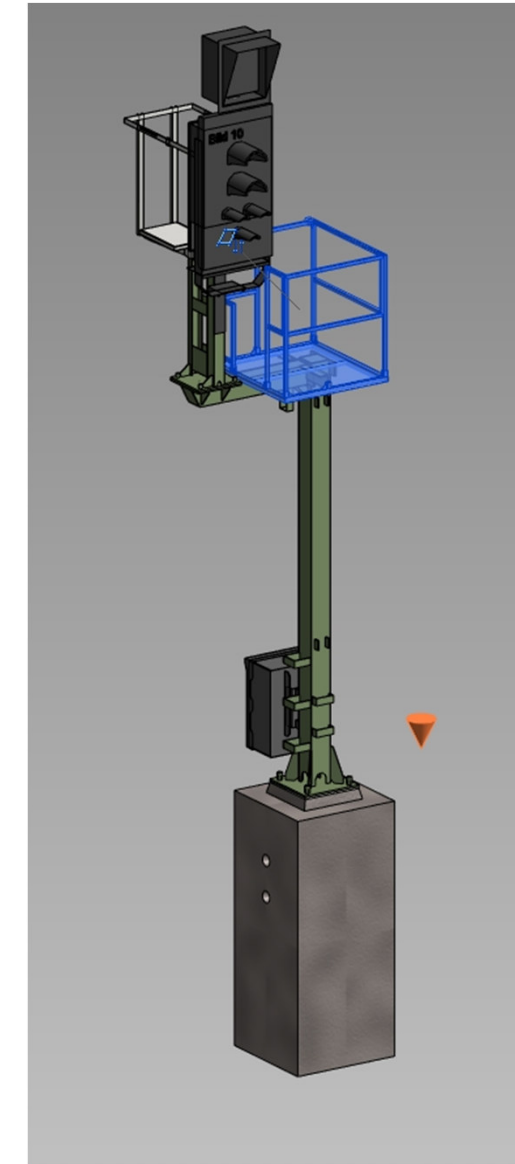
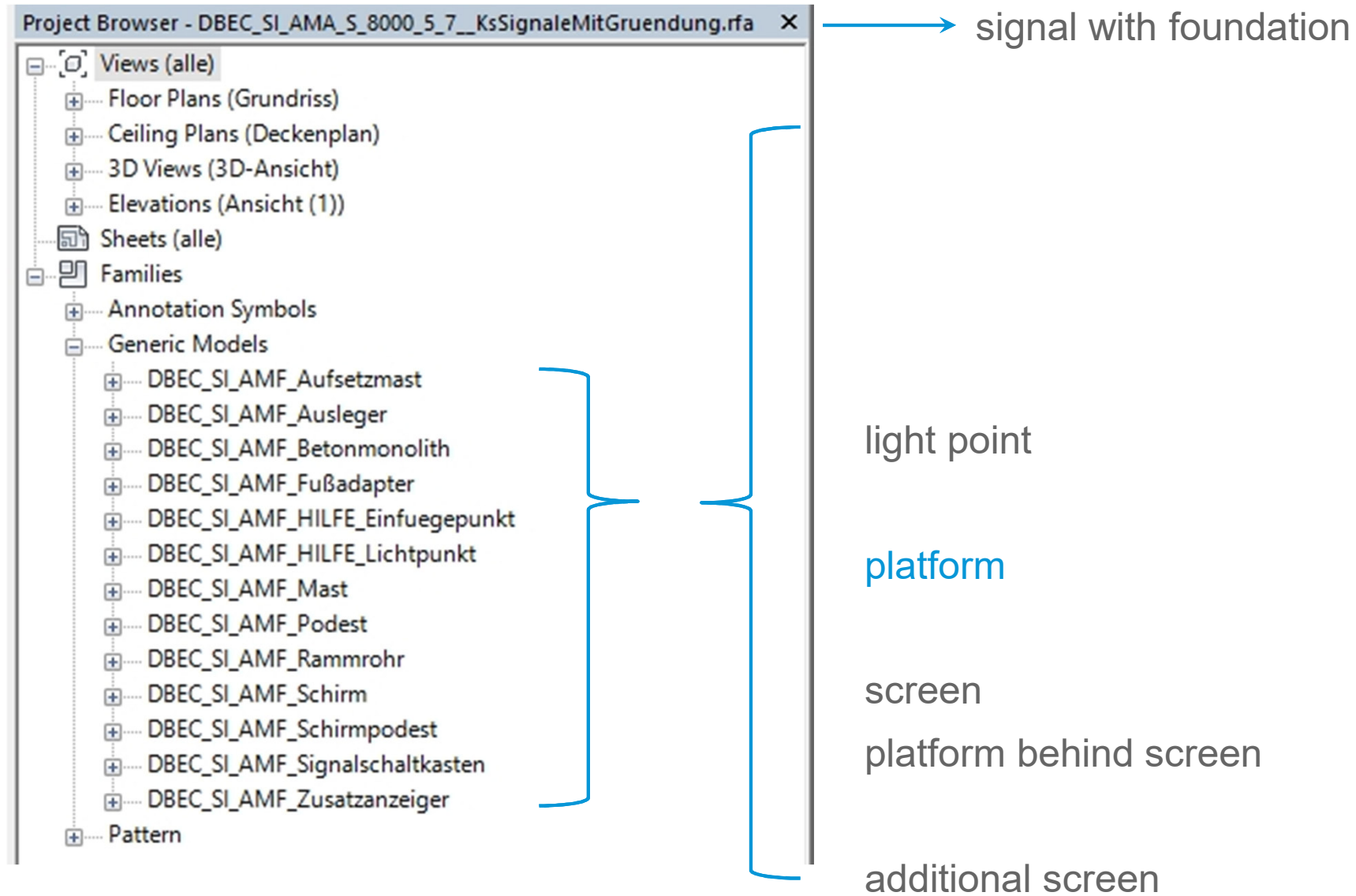
# The structure



main family

subfamilies

# The structure

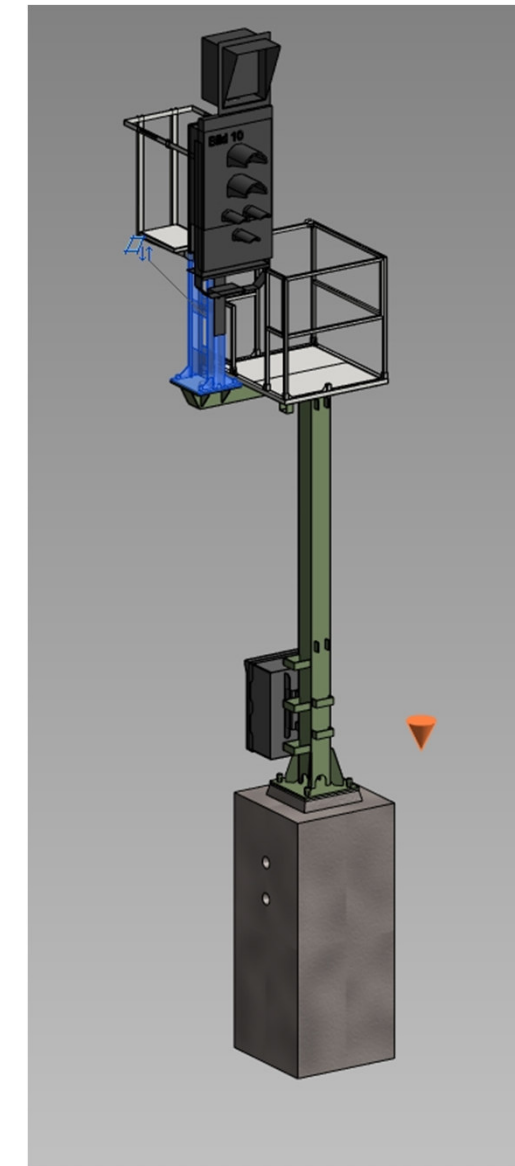
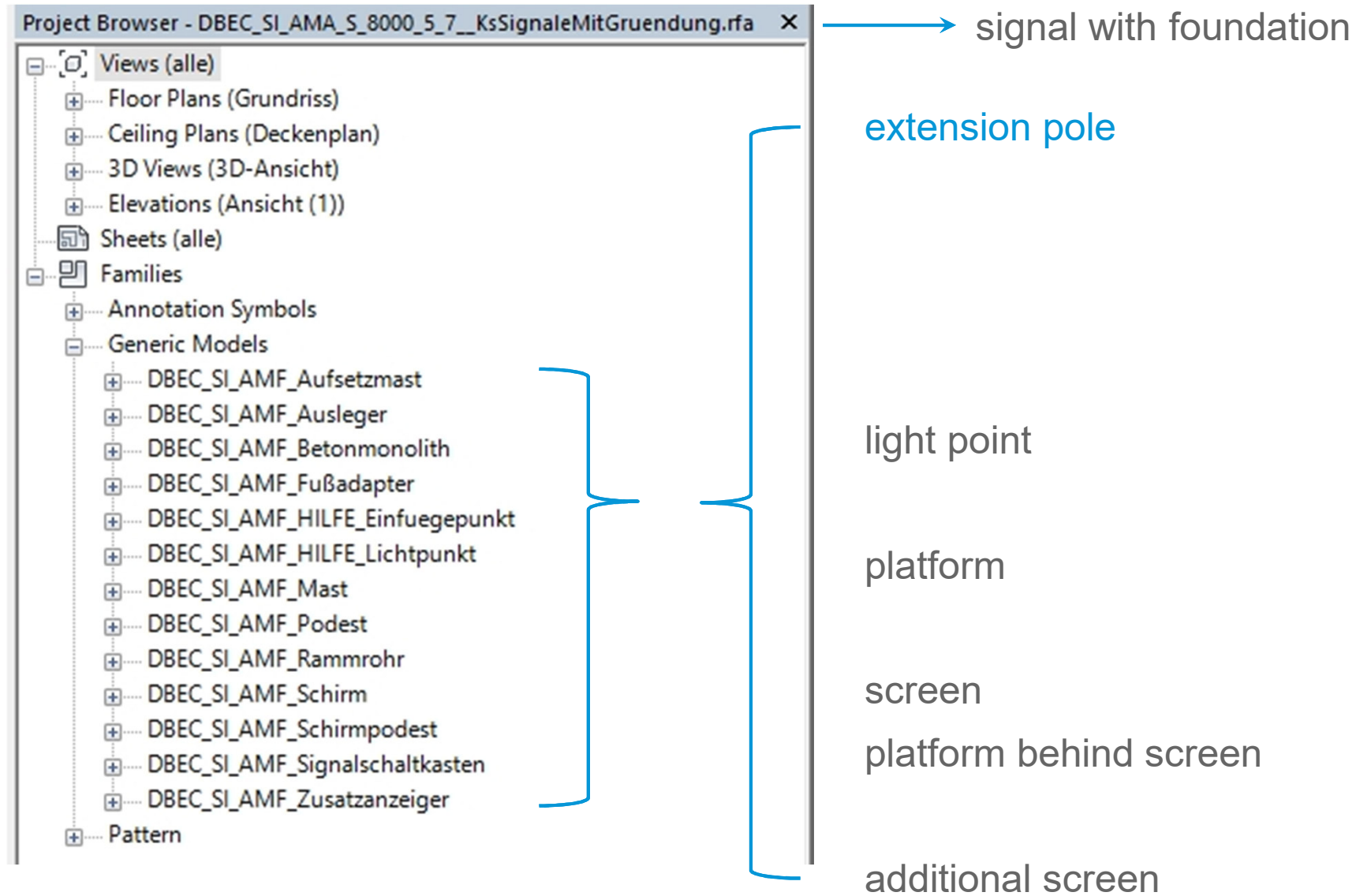


main family

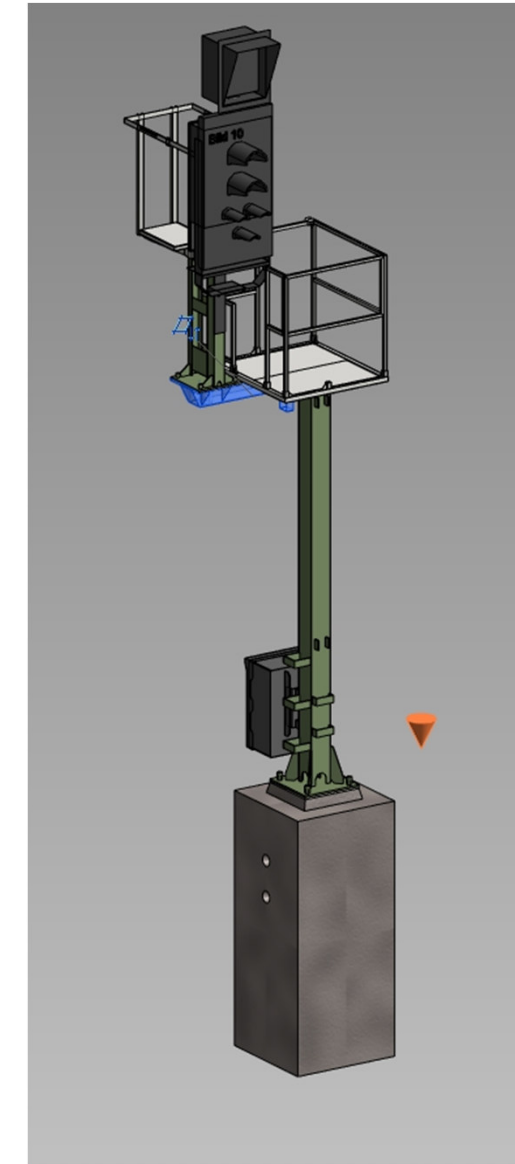
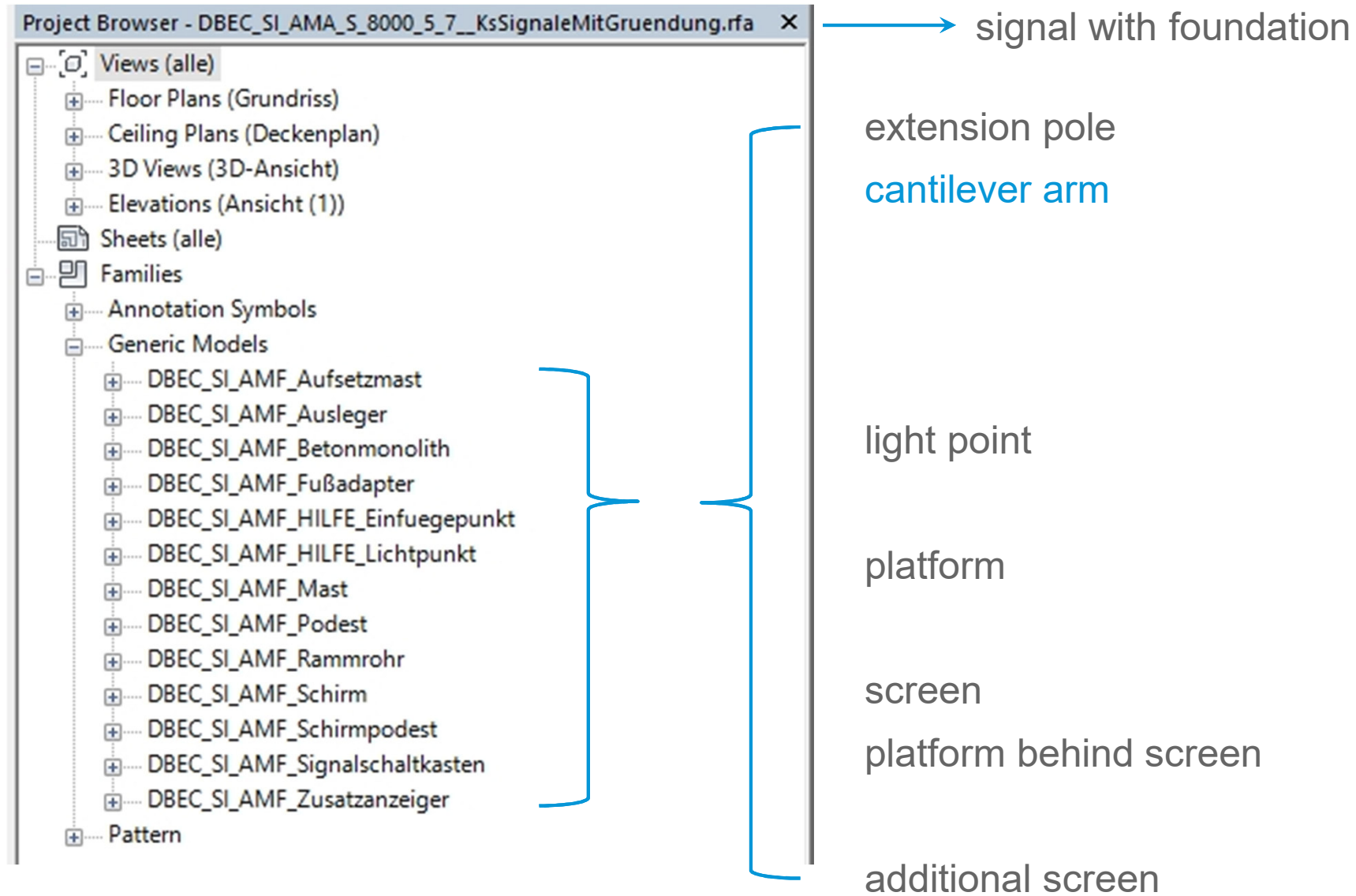
subfamilies



# The structure



# The structure

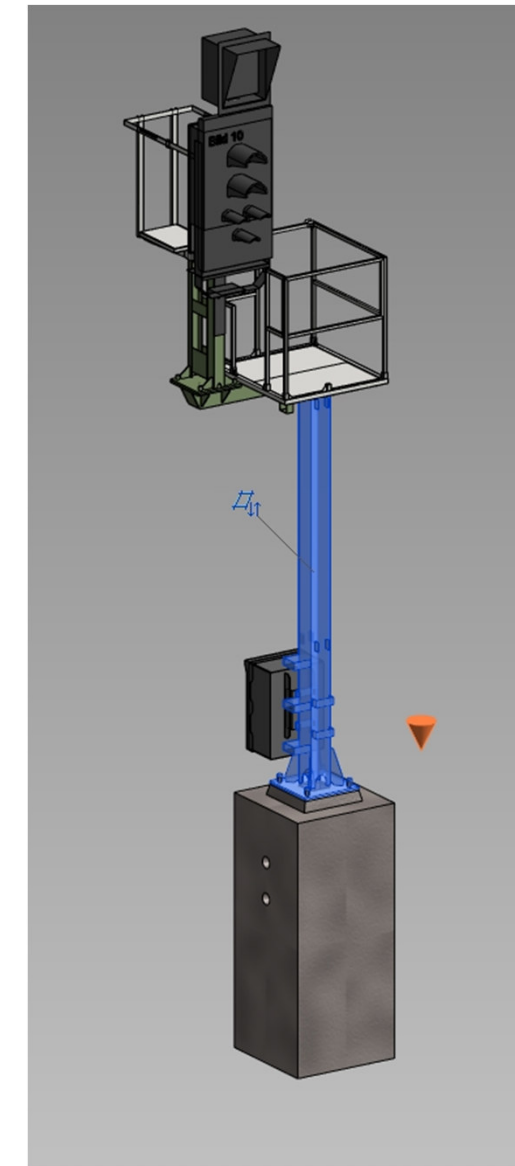
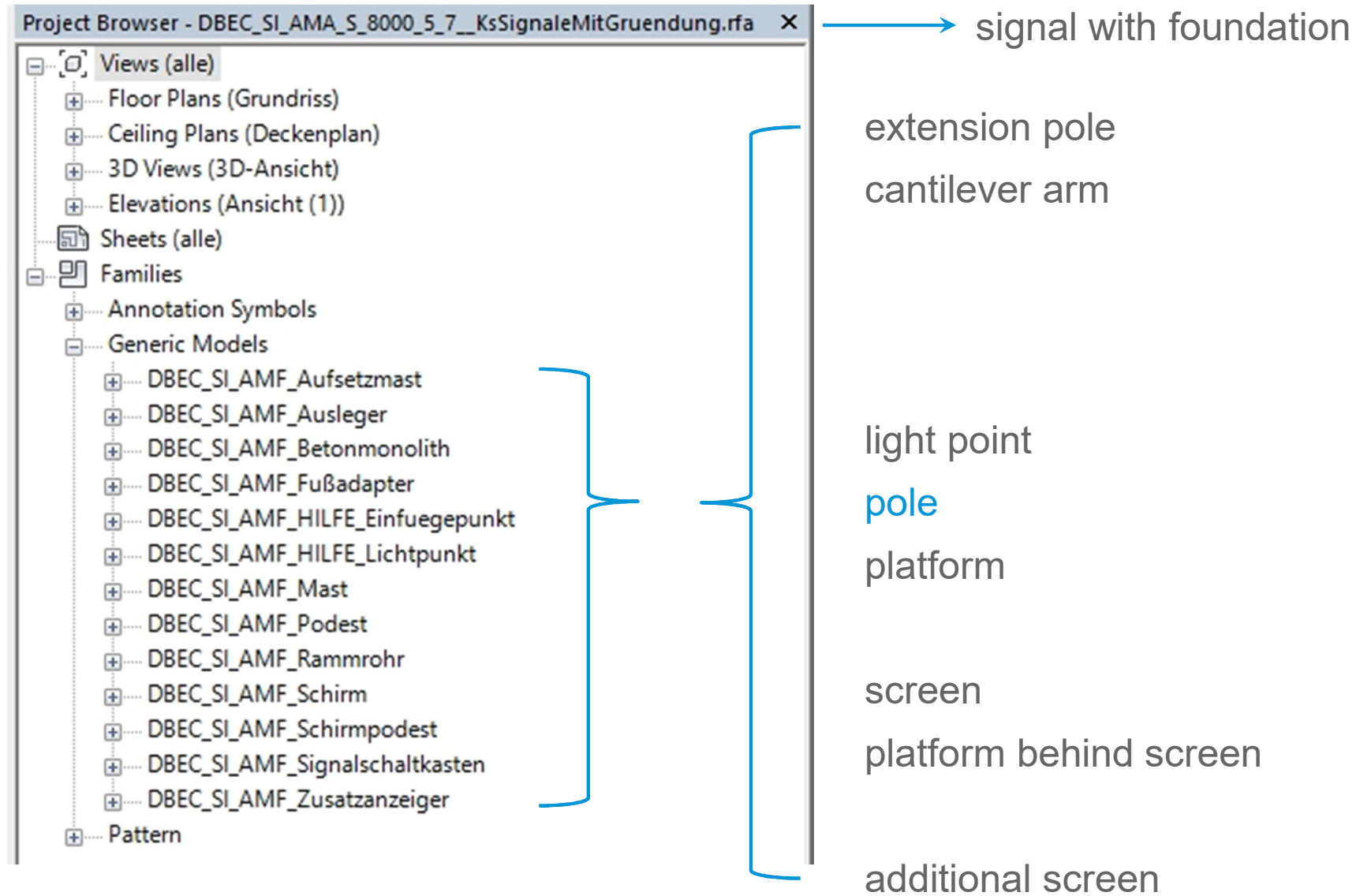


main family

subfamilies



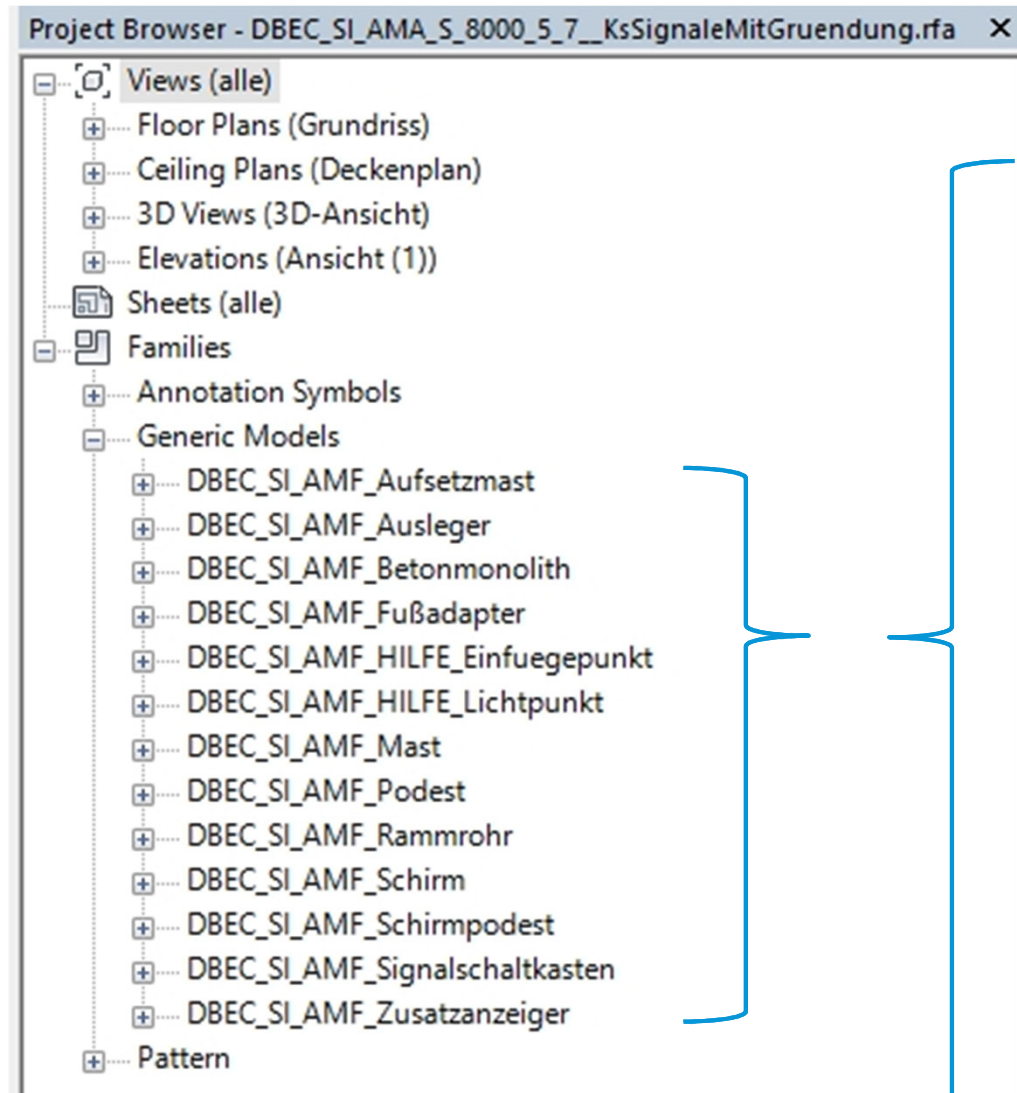
# The structure



main family

subfamilies

# The structure

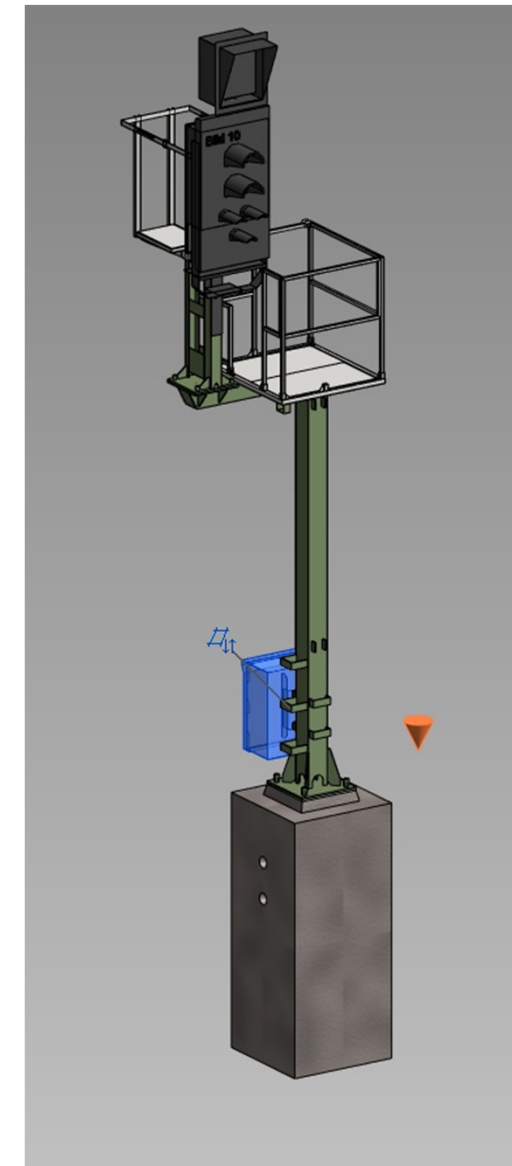


→ signal with foundation

extension pole  
cantilever arm

light point  
pole  
platform

screen  
platform behind screen  
switch box  
additional screen

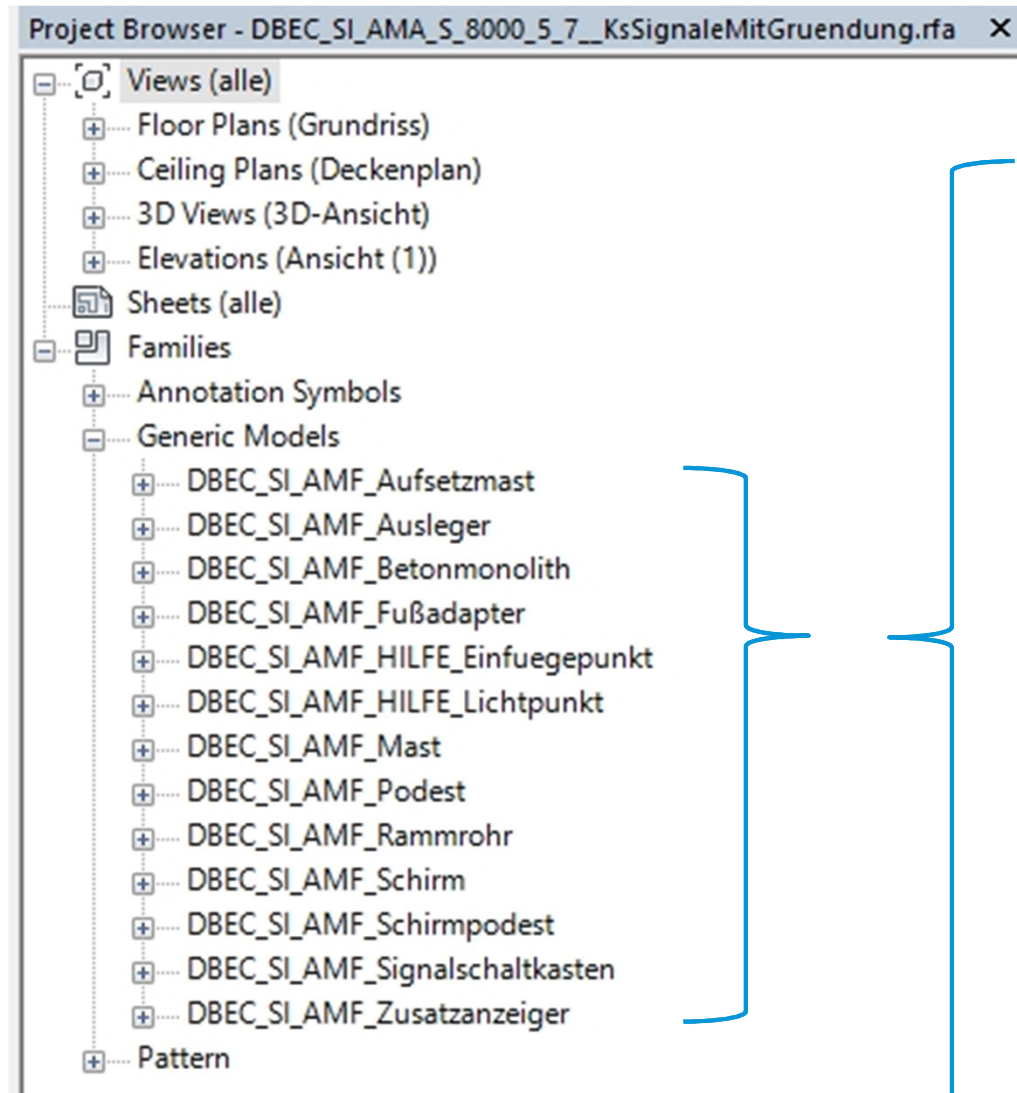


main family

subfamilies



# The structure



signal with foundation

extension pole

cantilever arm

concrete block foundation

light point

pole

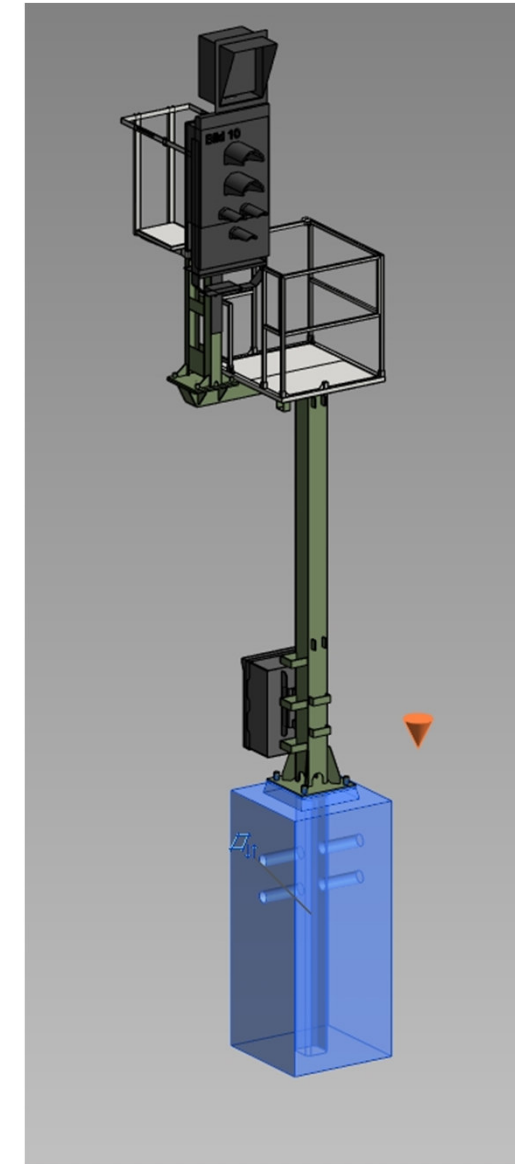
platform

screen

platform behind screen

switch box

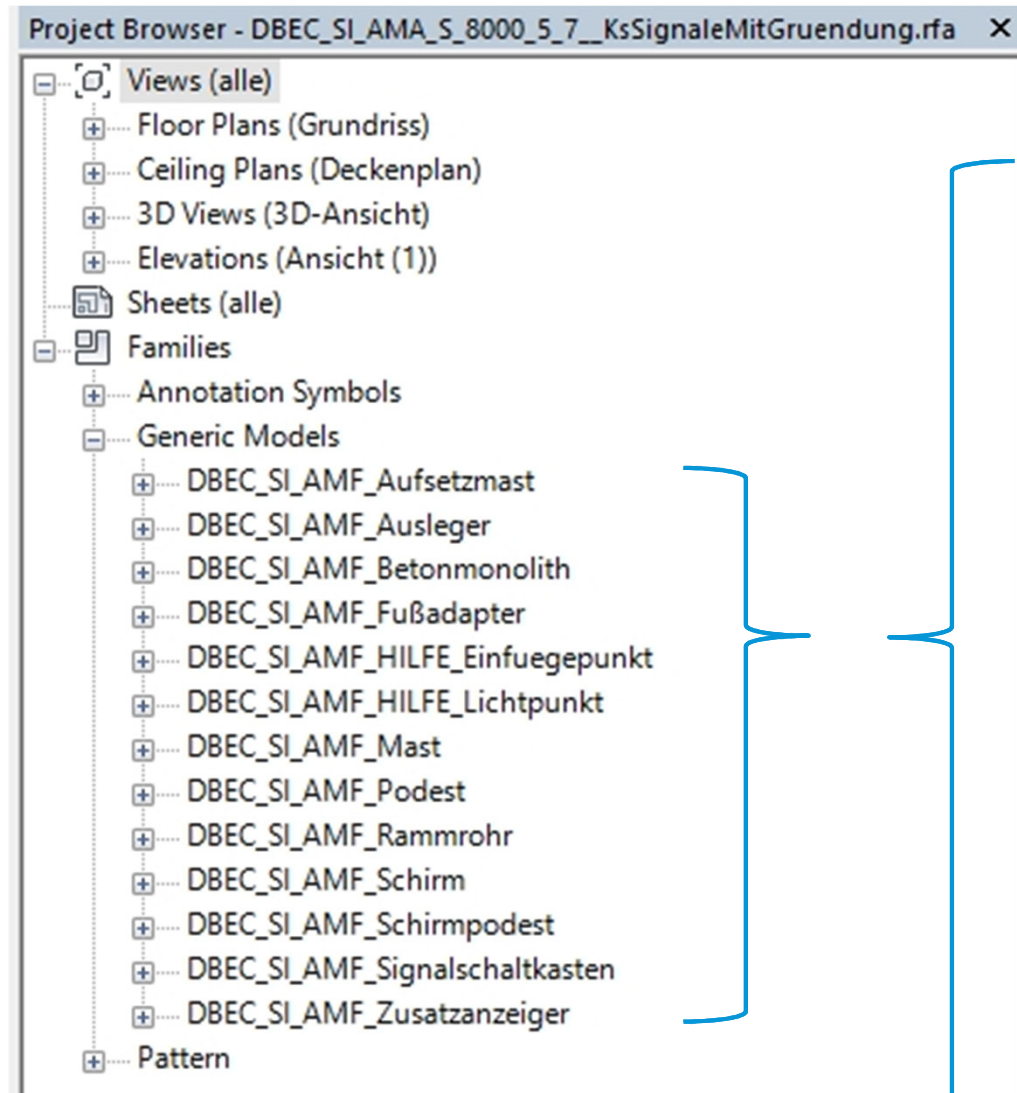
additional screen



main family

subfamilies

# The structure



signal with foundation

extension pole

cantilever arm

concrete block foundation

insertion point

light point

pole

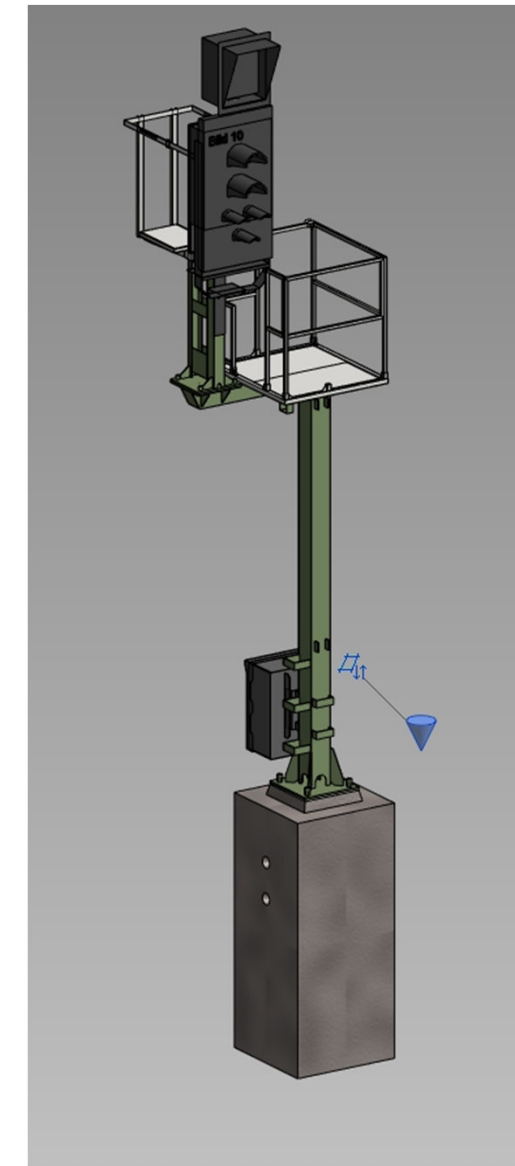
platform

screen

platform behind screen

switch box

additional screen

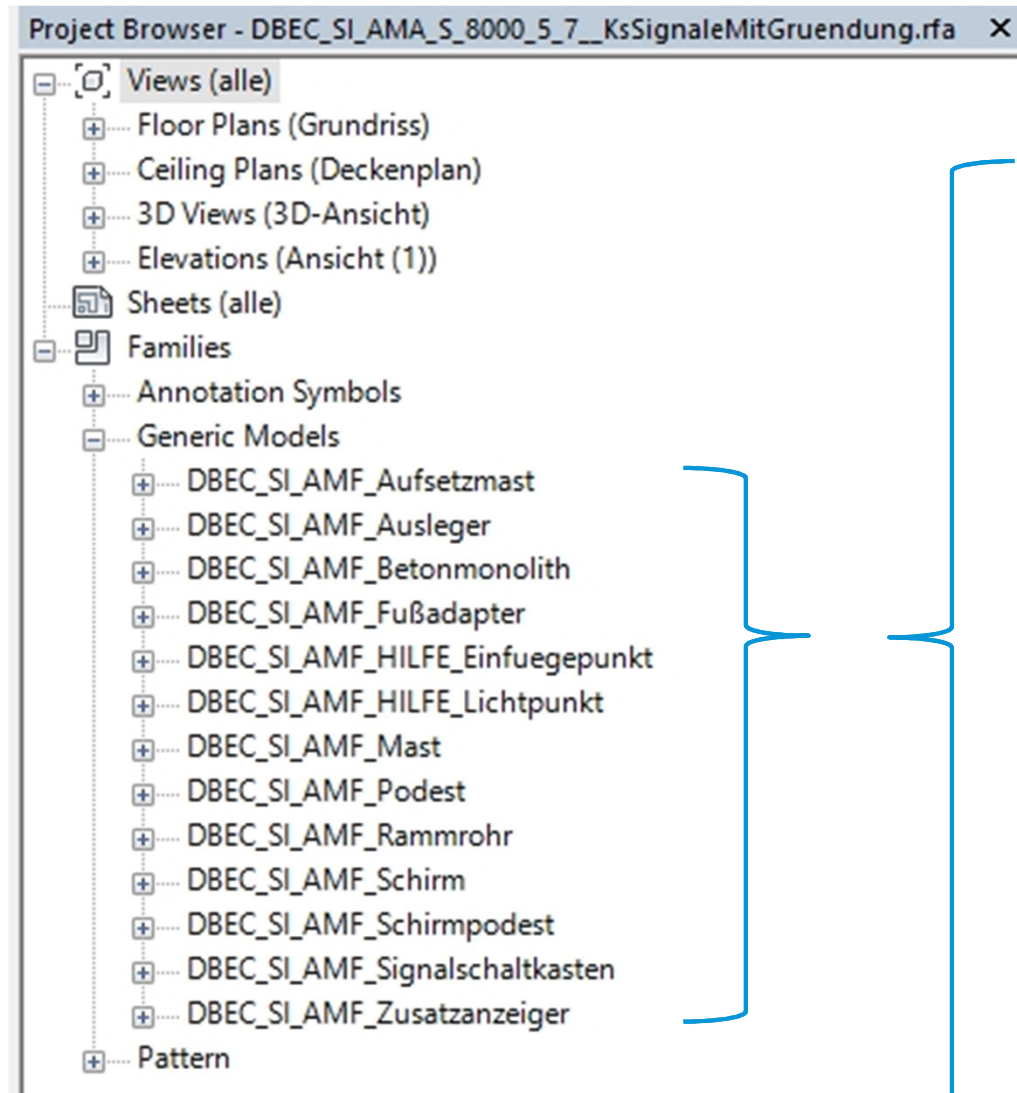


main family

subfamilies



# The structure



signal with foundation

extension pole

cantilever arm

concrete block foundation

base adapter

insertion point

light point

pole

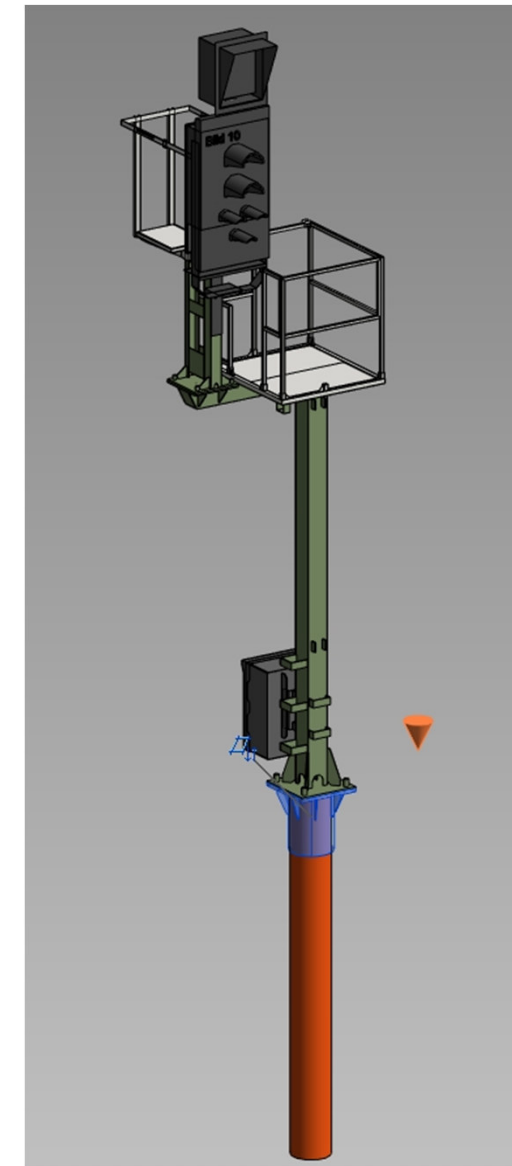
platform

screen

platform behind screen

switch box

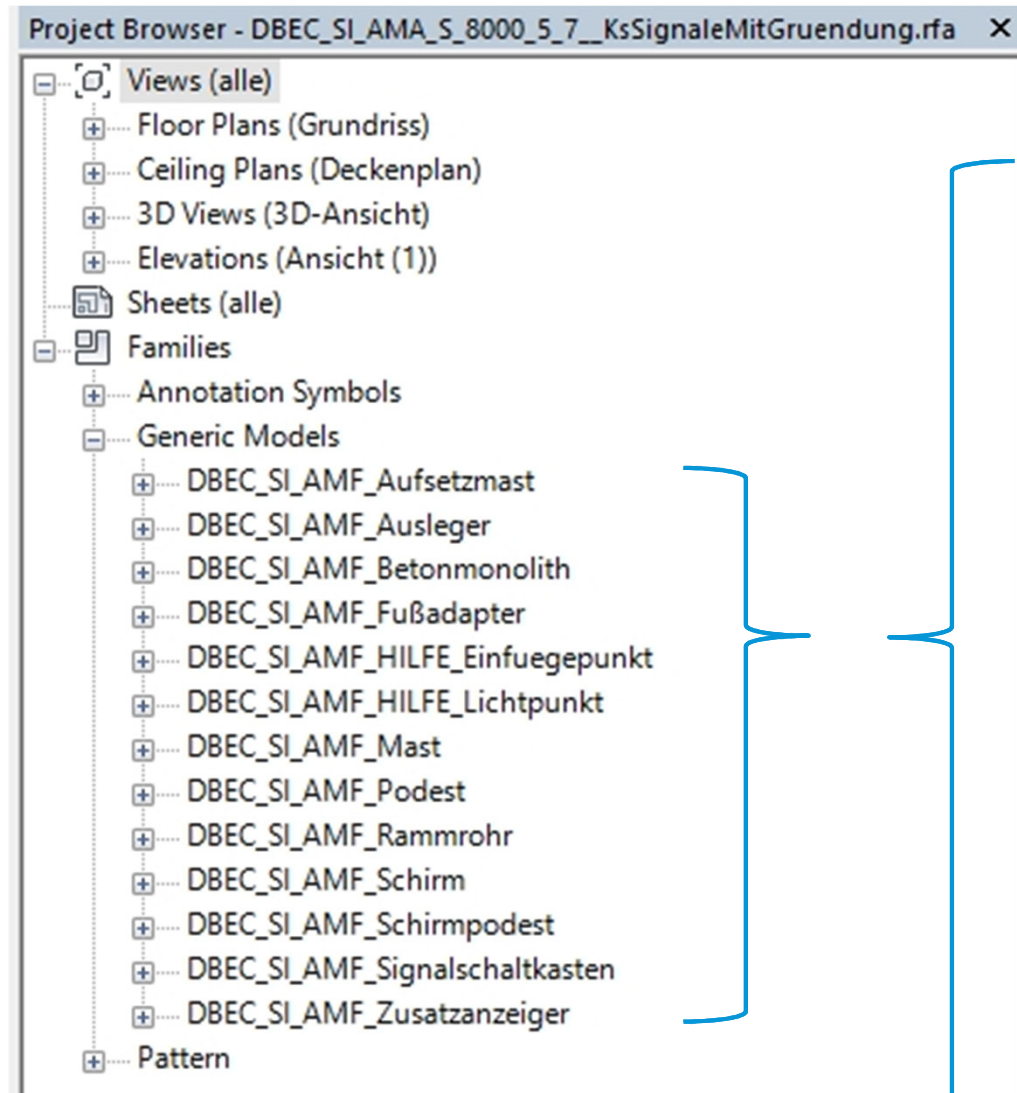
additional screen



main family

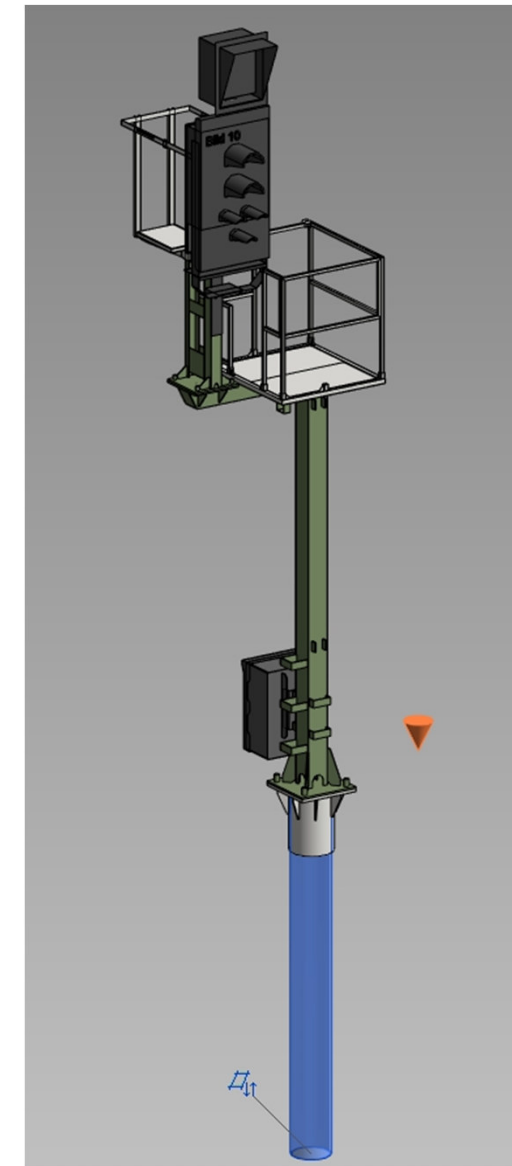
subfamilies

# The structure



→ signal with foundation

extension pole  
cantilever arm  
concrete block foundation  
base adapter  
insertion point  
light point  
pole  
platform  
ramming pipe  
screen  
platform behind screen  
switch box  
additional screen

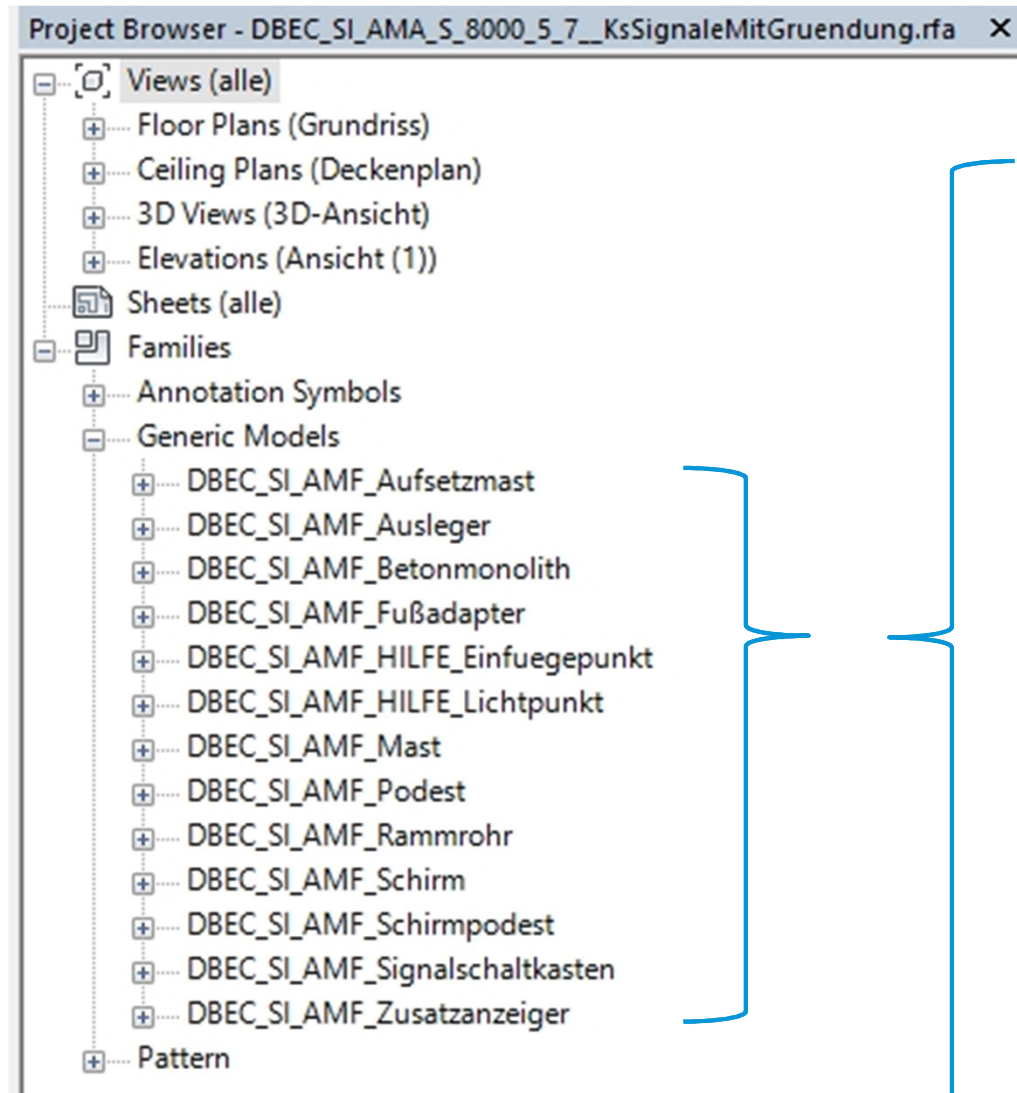


main family

subfamilies



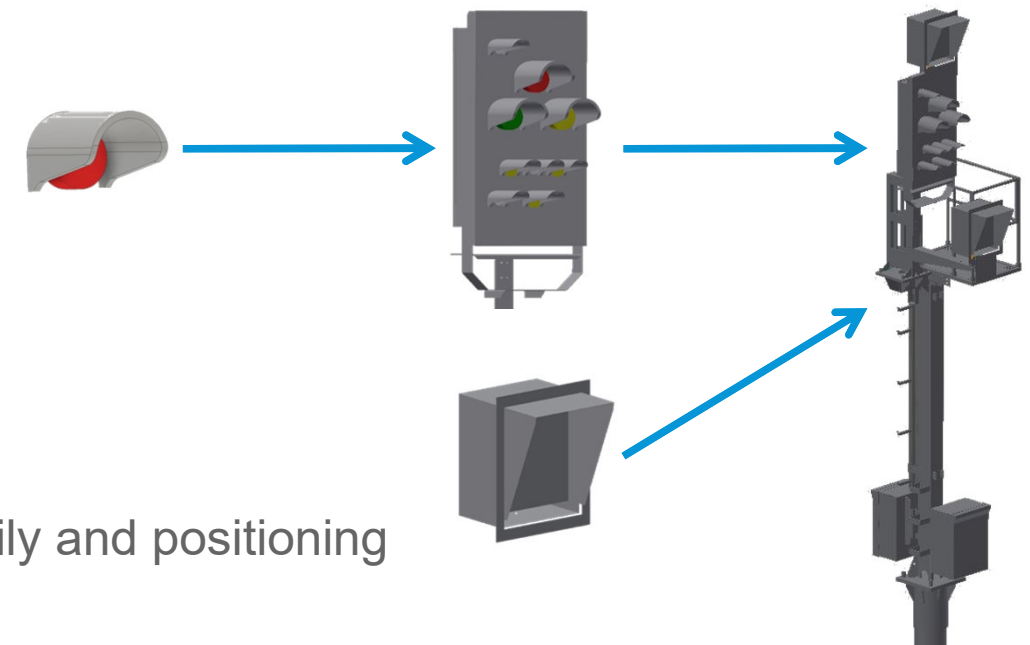
# The structure



signal with foundation	... 20 types (20 figures)	<b>main family</b>
extension pole	... 3 types (1x empty + 2 lengthes)	<b>subfamilies</b>
cantilever arm	... 5 types (1x empty + 2 lengthes + left/right)	
concrete block foundation	... 5 types	
base adapter	... 2 types	
insertion point	... no types (auxiliary means)	
light point	... no types (auxiliary means)	
pole	... 4 types (4 lengthes)	
platform	... 5 types (1x empty + 2 dimensions + left/right)	
ramming pipe	... 16 types (8 lengthes + 2 profiles)	
screen	... 20 types (20 figures)	
platform behind screen	... 3 types (3 dimensions)	
switch box	... 2 types	
additional screen	... 2 types	

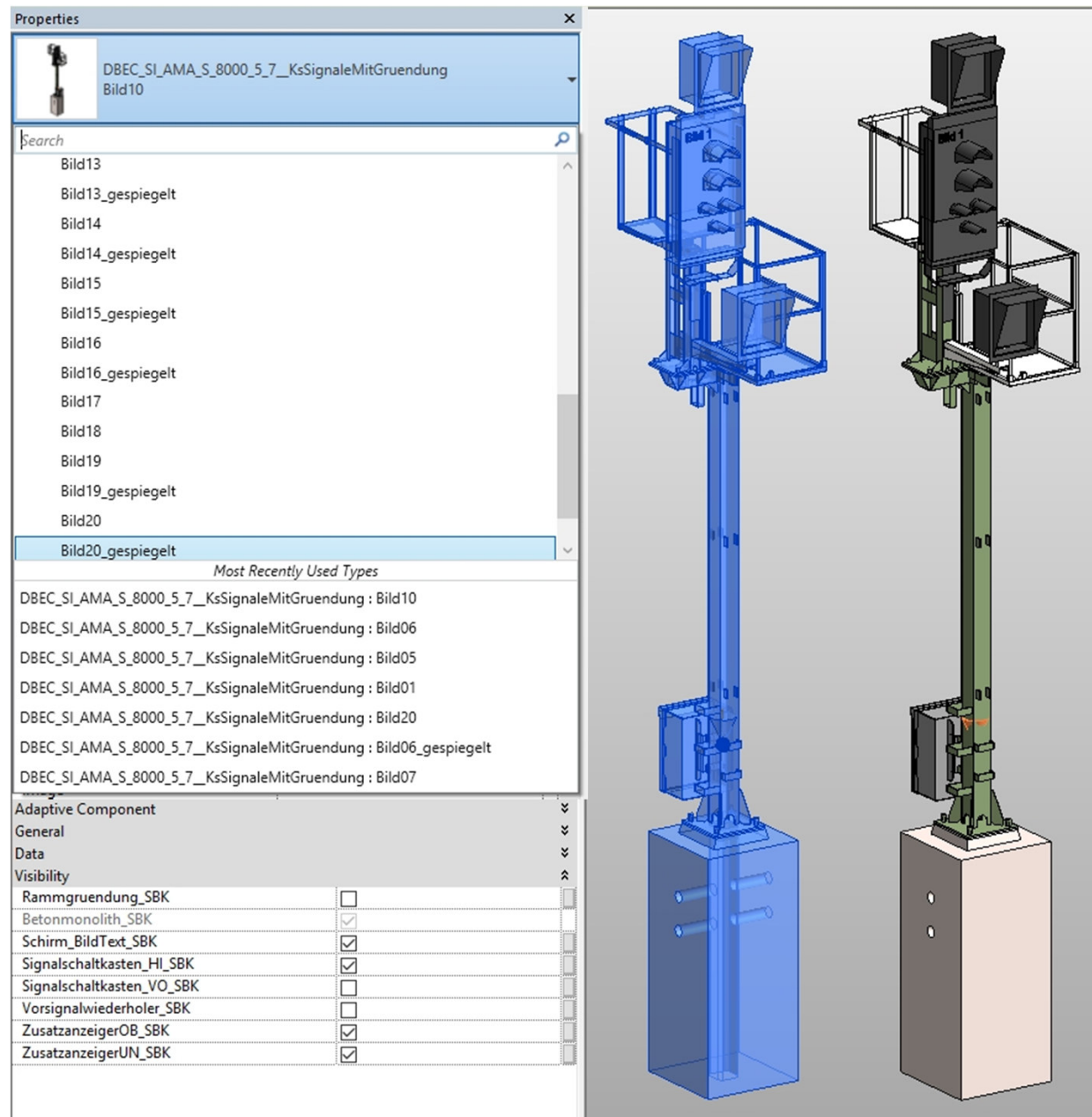
# The work

- step 1: creating Revit sub families out of Inventor geometries
  - merging Inventor parts to an Inventor assembly
  - using shrinkwrap command to simplify geometries
  - exporting assembly into ADSK file format
  - opening ADSK file in Revit, copy geometry in a new face based family and positioning
- step 2: creating Revit main family
  - creating 1-point adaptive family with interconnected reference points
  - placing sub families from step 1 and defining dependencies
- step 3: parameter setting
  - defining parameters for controlling geometry / position and holding information



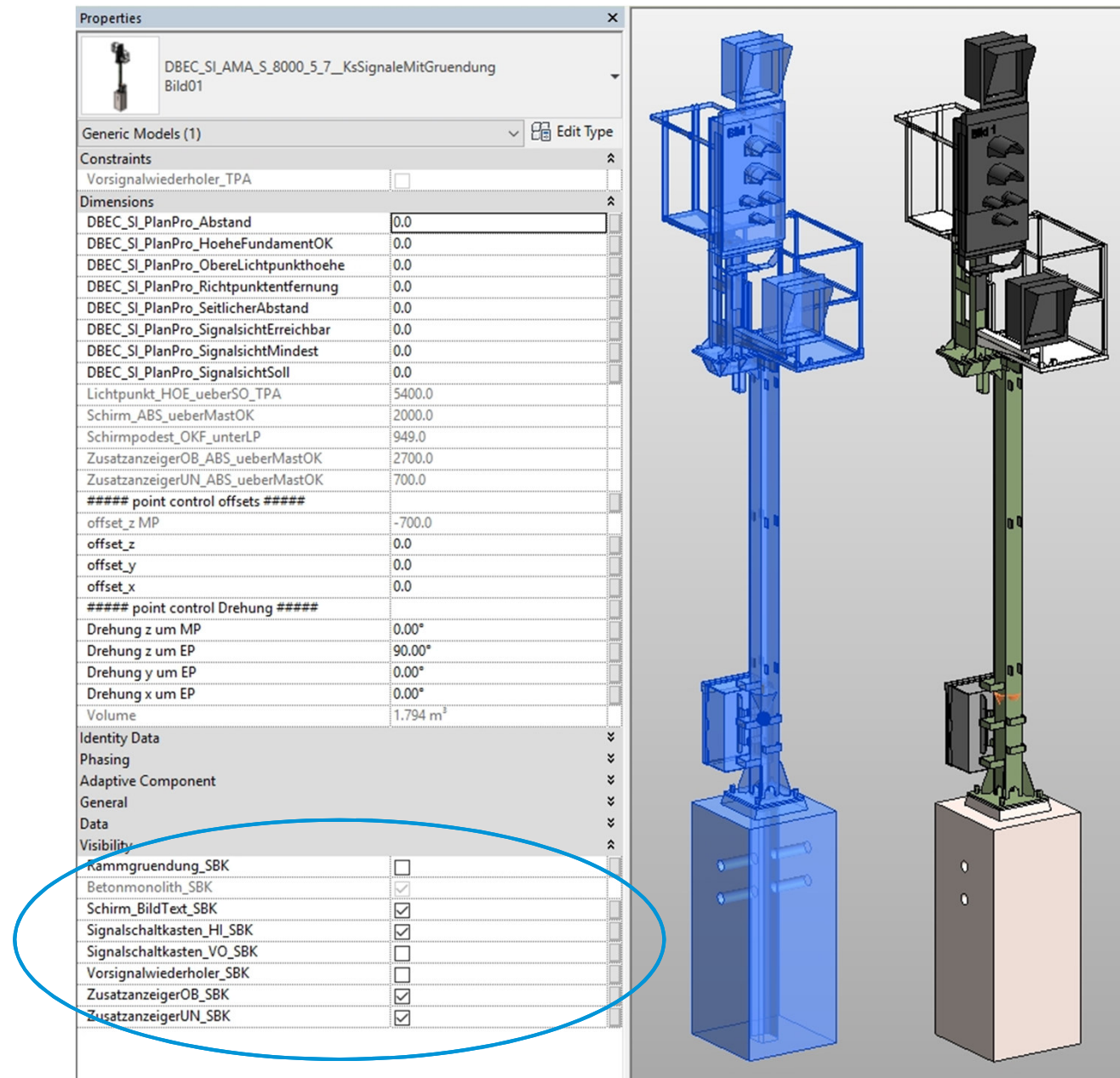


# The result



- one nested family
  - 36 types
  - 13 sub families with more than 60 types

# The result

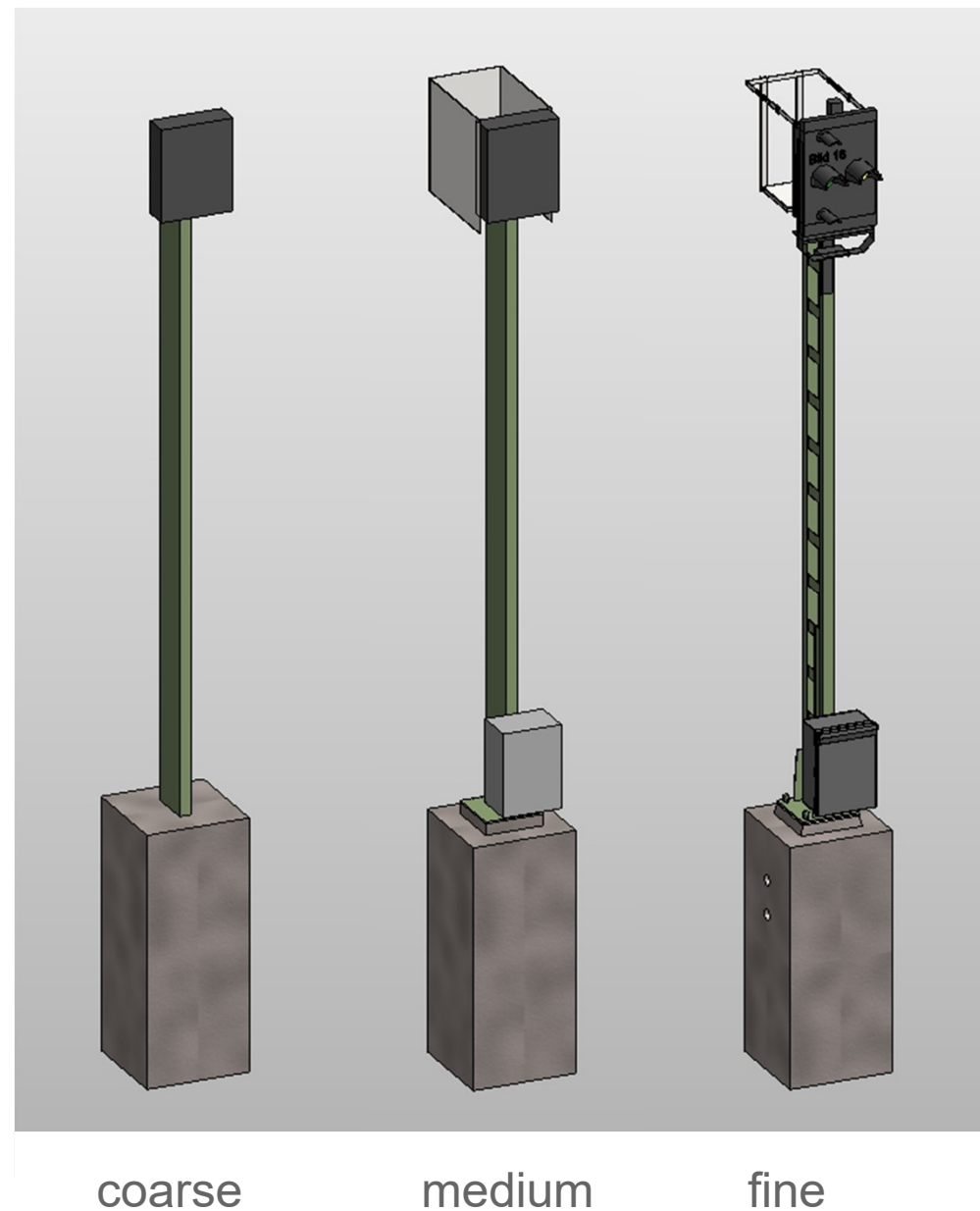



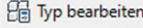
- one nested family
  - 36 types
  - 13 sub families with more than 60 types
  - many variation due to parameters for controlling the visibility of elements (e.g. deep or surface foundation, one or two additional screens, ...)
  - filesize 15.7 MB



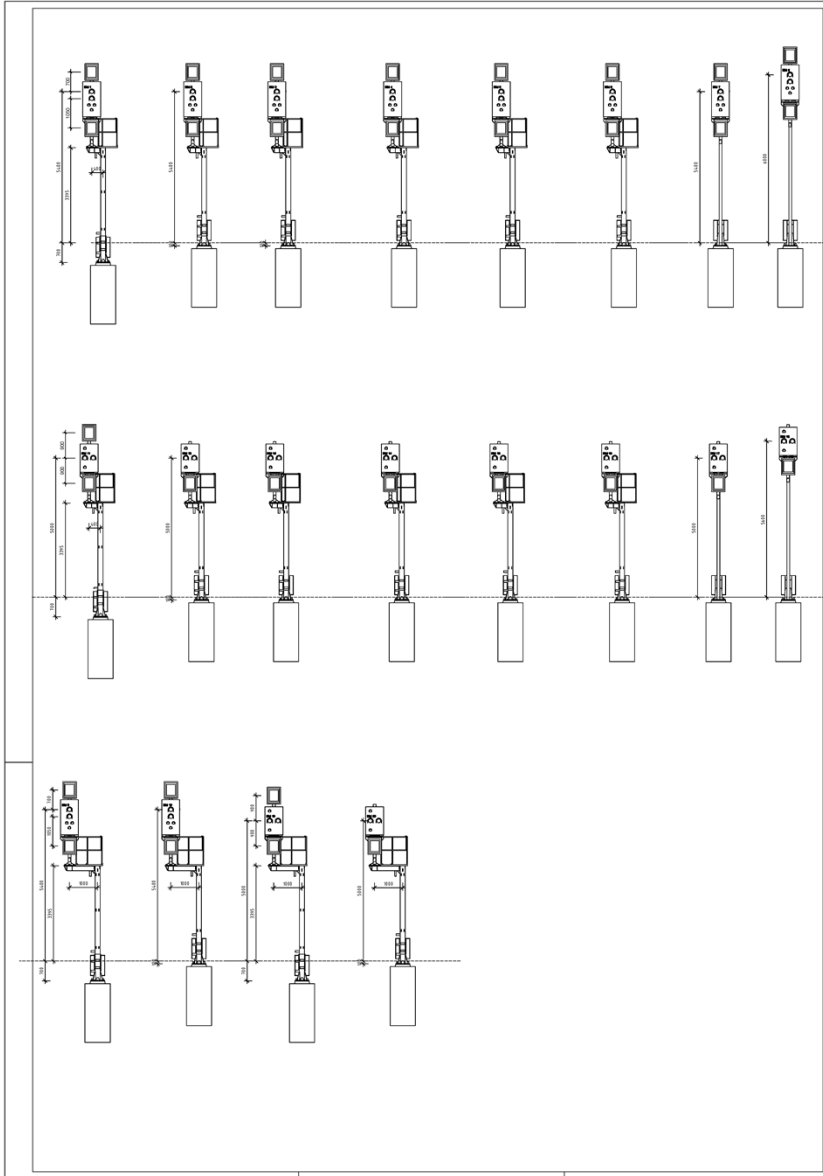
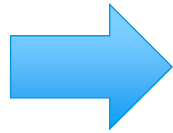
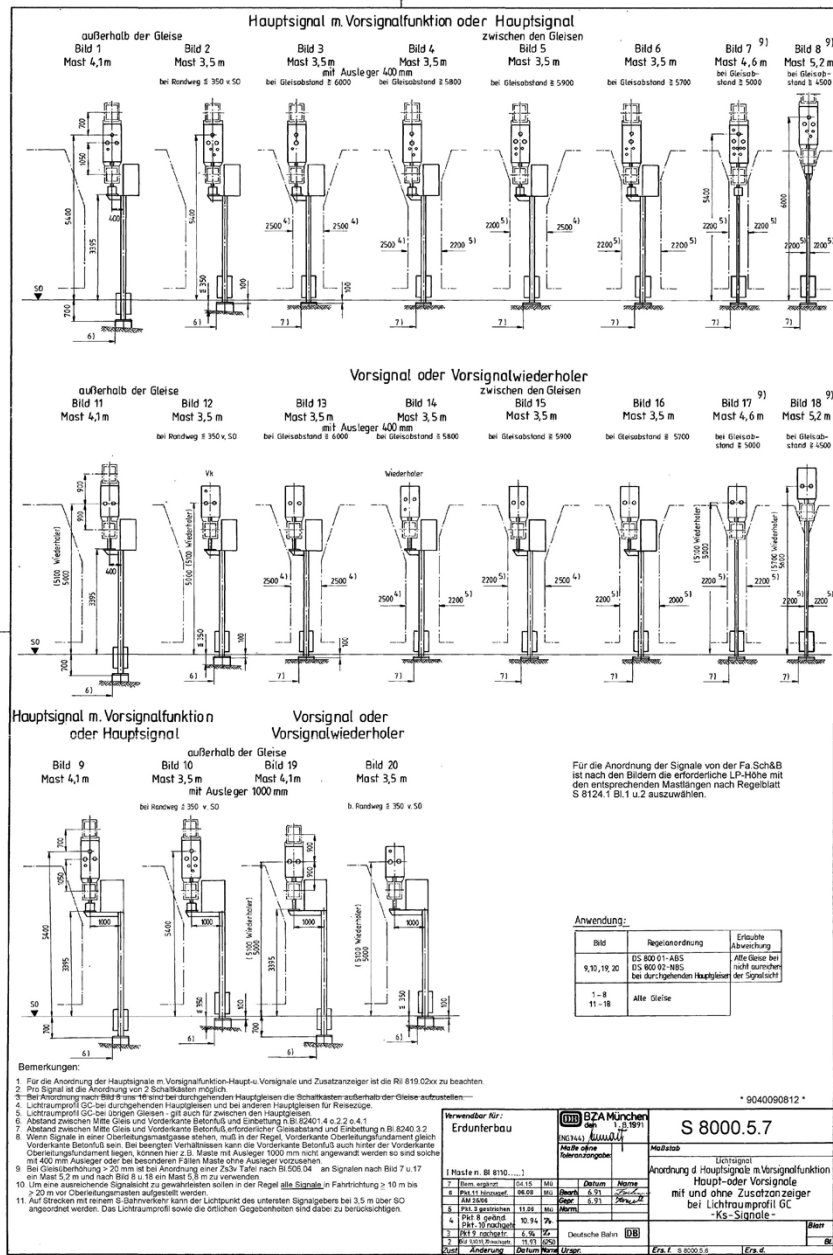
# The result

- one nested family
  - 3 detail levels
  - all information from primary planning software

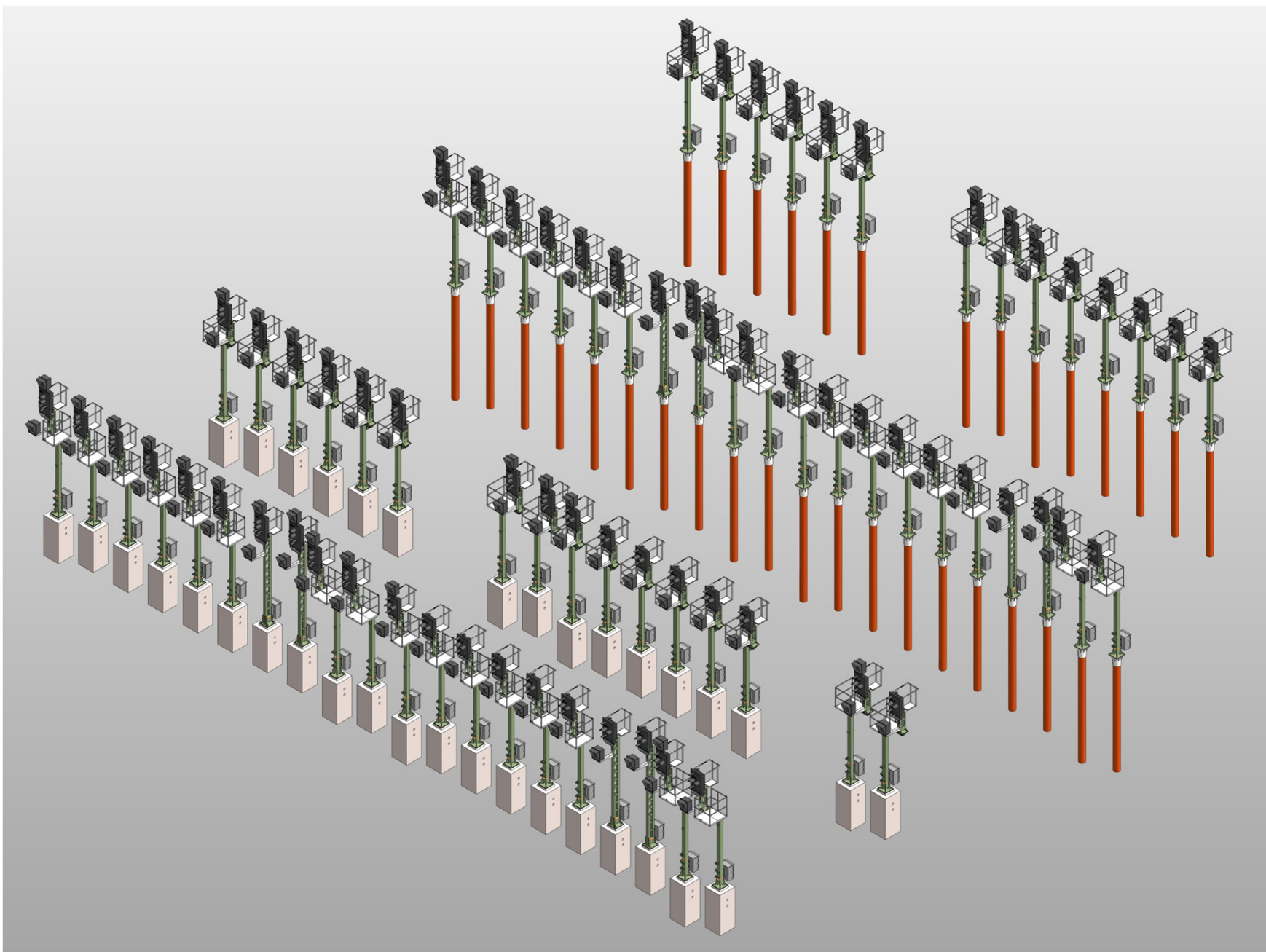
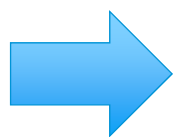
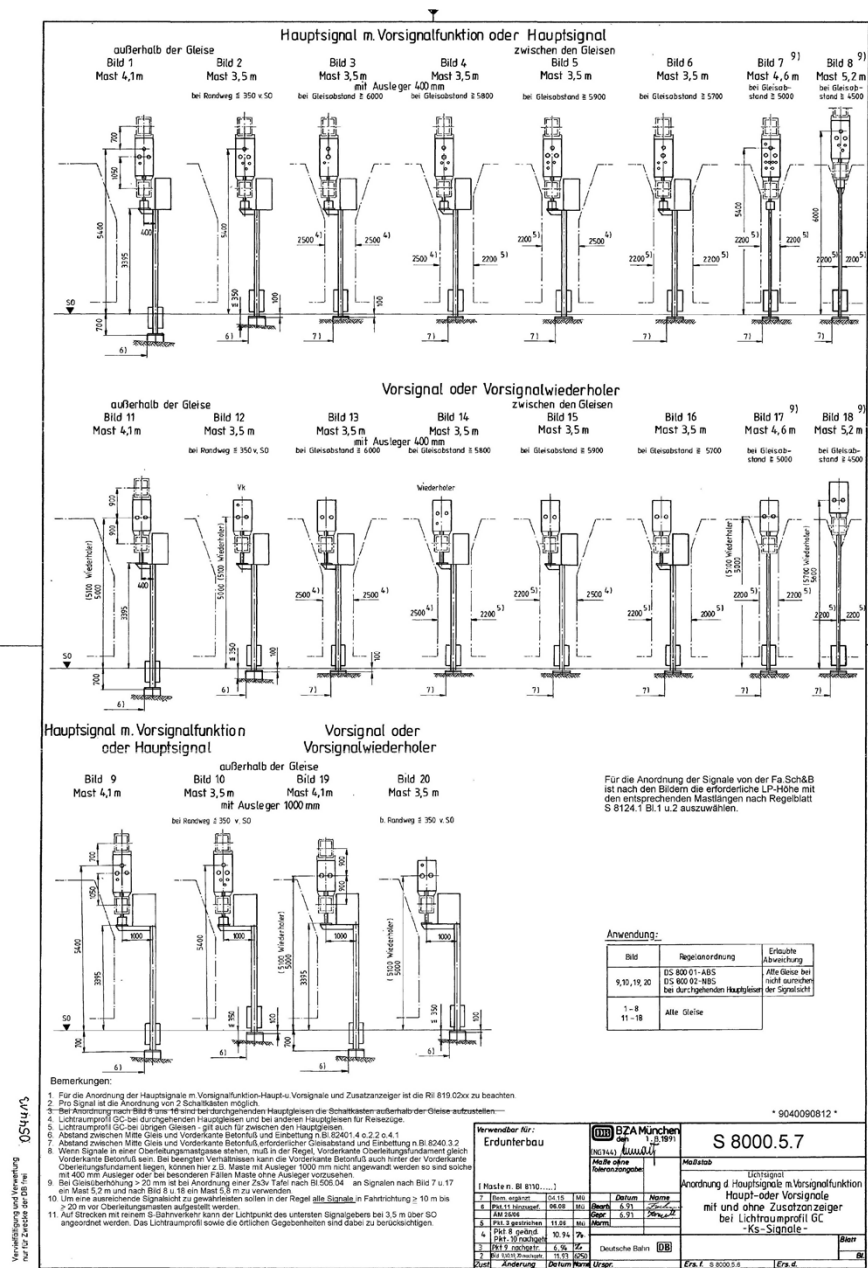


Eigenschaften	
	DBEC_SI_AMA_S_8000_5_7_KsSignaleMitGruendung Bild03
Allgemeines Modell (1) 	
DBEC_AA_Allgemein_LoD	LOD200
DBEC_AA_Allgemein_Lol	
DBEC_AA_Termine_BauphaseABN	
DBEC_AA_Termine_BauphaseAusbau	
DBEC_AA_Termine_BauphaseEinbau	0
DBEC_AA_Termine_BauphaseIBN	
DBEC_AA_Termine_DatumABN	
DBEC_AA_Termine_DatumAusbau	
DBEC_AA_Termine_DatumEinbau	
DBEC_AA_Termine_DatumIBN	
DBEC_AA_Zuordnung_RegelwerkNu...	
DBEC_AA_Zuordnung_Richtzeichnun...	Bild03
DBEC_AA_Zuordnung_Richtzeichnun...	S 8000.5.7
DBEC_AA_Zuordnung_Station	0.000000
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DBEC_SI_Allgemein_HerstellerSBI	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_Bedienart	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_BefestigungAender...	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_BefestigungArt	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_EnergieID	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_InformationID	63.380
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_RahmenArt	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_RegelzeichnungID	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_Richtpunkt	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_SeitlicheLage	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_SignalArt	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_SignalBefestigungID	
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DBEC_SI_PlanPro_SignalBezeichnung	20ZV209
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_SignalFunktion	
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DBEC_SI_PlanPro_SignalID	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_SignalNachordnun...	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_SignalRahmenID	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_SignalSymbol	Zs2v,Zs3v,Zs3,Zs7
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_Signalsystem	
DBEC_SI_PlanPro_StellelementID	
DBEC SI_PlanPro StreuscheibeArt	
<a href="#">Hilfe zu Eigenschaften</a>	Anwenden

# The result



# The result





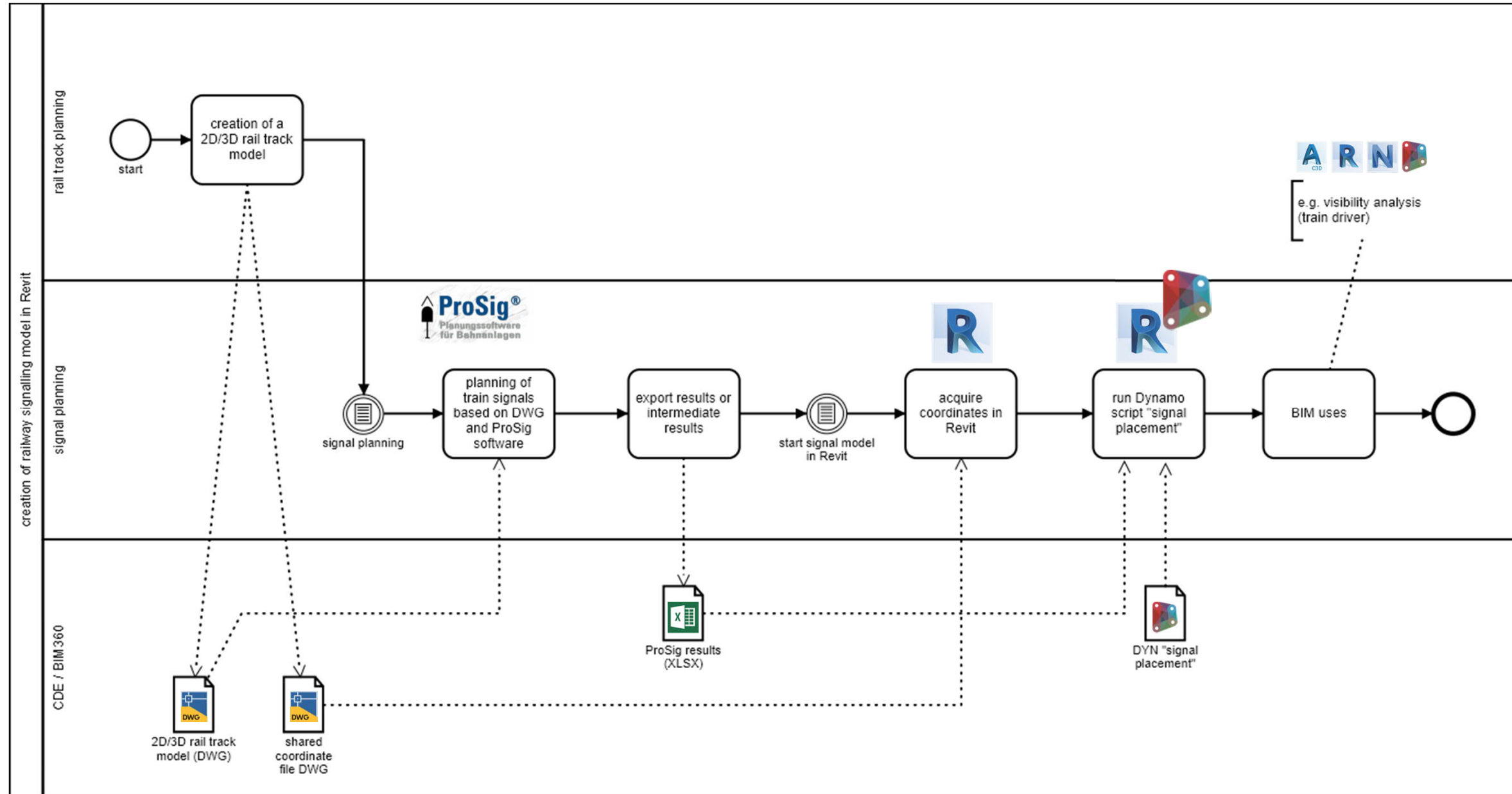
Create a 3D-model by using origin  
data base and Dynamo



# Automated Placement of Railway Signals

In this workflow, detailed signals are automatically placed in a 3D Revit model and all relevant information is added

# Automated Placement of Railway Signals

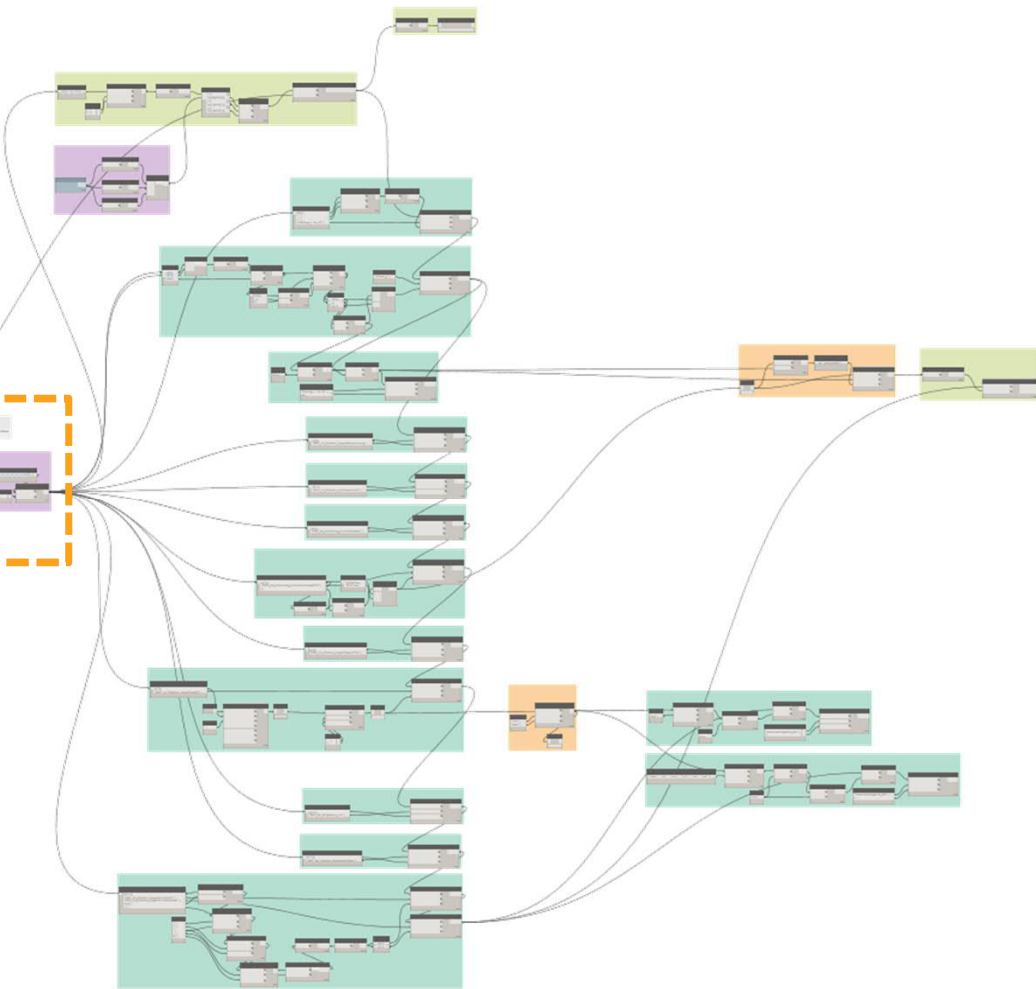




# The Dynamo Script

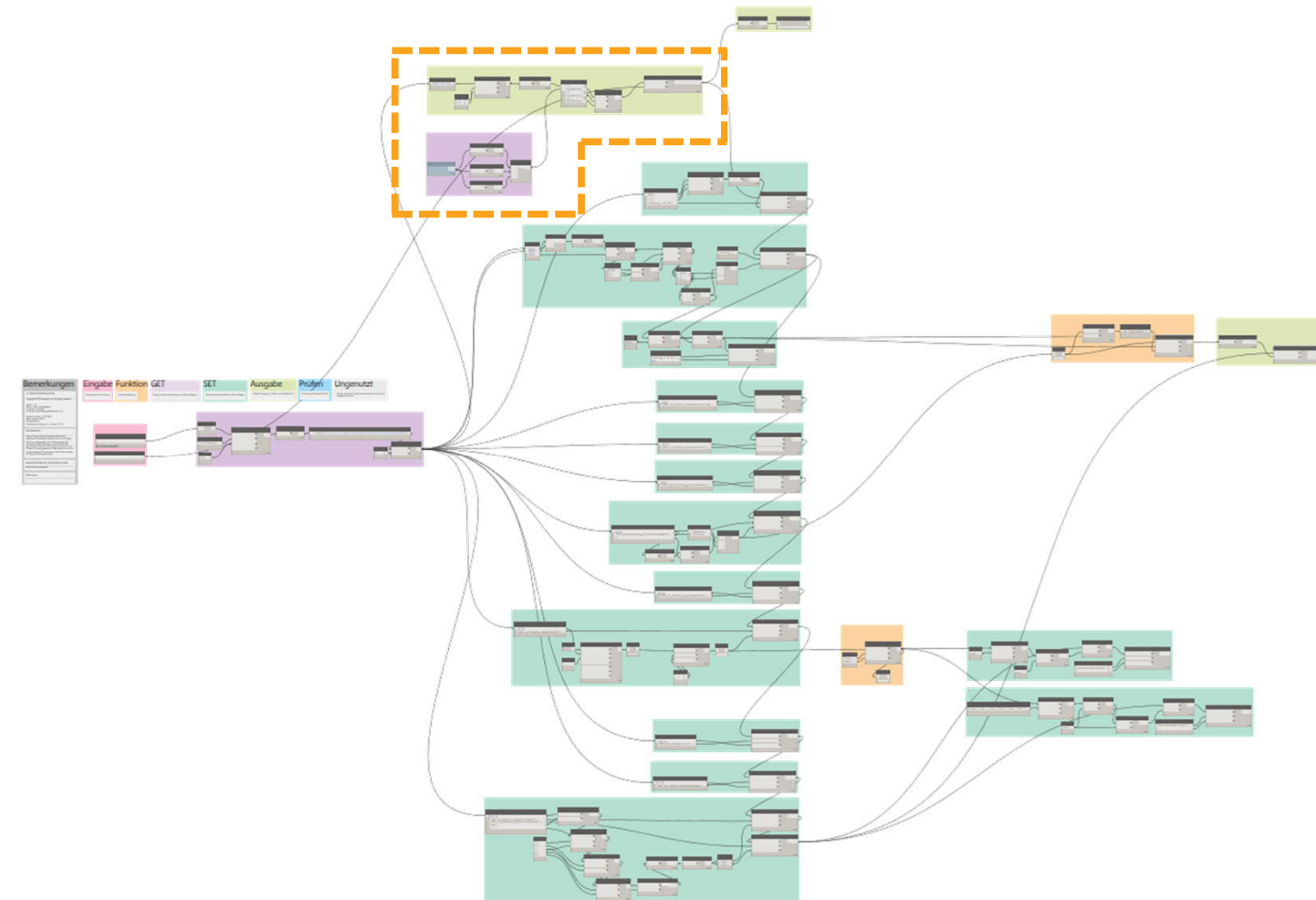
- Data import from Excel file (ProSig/ProCoPS export)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG	AH	AI	AJ	AK	
	Dauer eq	Benennung	Stoß	Stoß	Kanal	Stärke	Ra 50000.5	Ra 62500/24 40 Hertz	Le Signal 5104	Sonder antrag	Sonder antrag	Ra 50000.5	Signal antrag	Markt ID	BO- Antrag Sell	BO- Antrag Int	d Markt ID Antrag	nd Markt ID Antrag	Aktu antrag	Schalt antrag	Schirm	Zurück	Block antrag	Aktu antrag	Oris antrag	Stell antrag	Ein antrag	Zur antrag	Ko antrag	Ko antrag	DBE antrag	DBE antrag	Ko antrag	Ob antrag	Ob antrag	Licht antrag		
1	20F	2.865	5102			3											3000	0																				
2	20FF	2.865	5102			3											3000	0																				
3	20ZU001	1.450	Hofen			3											3000	0																				
4	20Z08	62.560	5103			6											3000	0																				
5	20N400	1.100	5103			7											3000	0																				
6	20P10	61.445	5103			3											3000	0																				
7	20P11	61.437	5103			8											2522	0																				
8	20P12	61.445	5103			6											2760	0																				
9	20P13	61.463	5103			3											2978	0																				
10	20P14	61.568	5103			8											2600	0																				
11	20P15	61.648	5103			7											3000	0																				
12	20P2	62.070	5103			3											3000	0																				
13	20P3	62.108	5103			7											2587	0																				
14	20P4	62.103	5103			5											3000	0																				
15	20P5	62.033	5103			7											2743	0																				
16	20P6	62.105	5103			3											3000	0																				
17	20P7	62.108	5103			3											3000	0																				
18	20P9	61.444	5103			7											2743	0																				
19																	2634	0																				
20																	2634	0																				



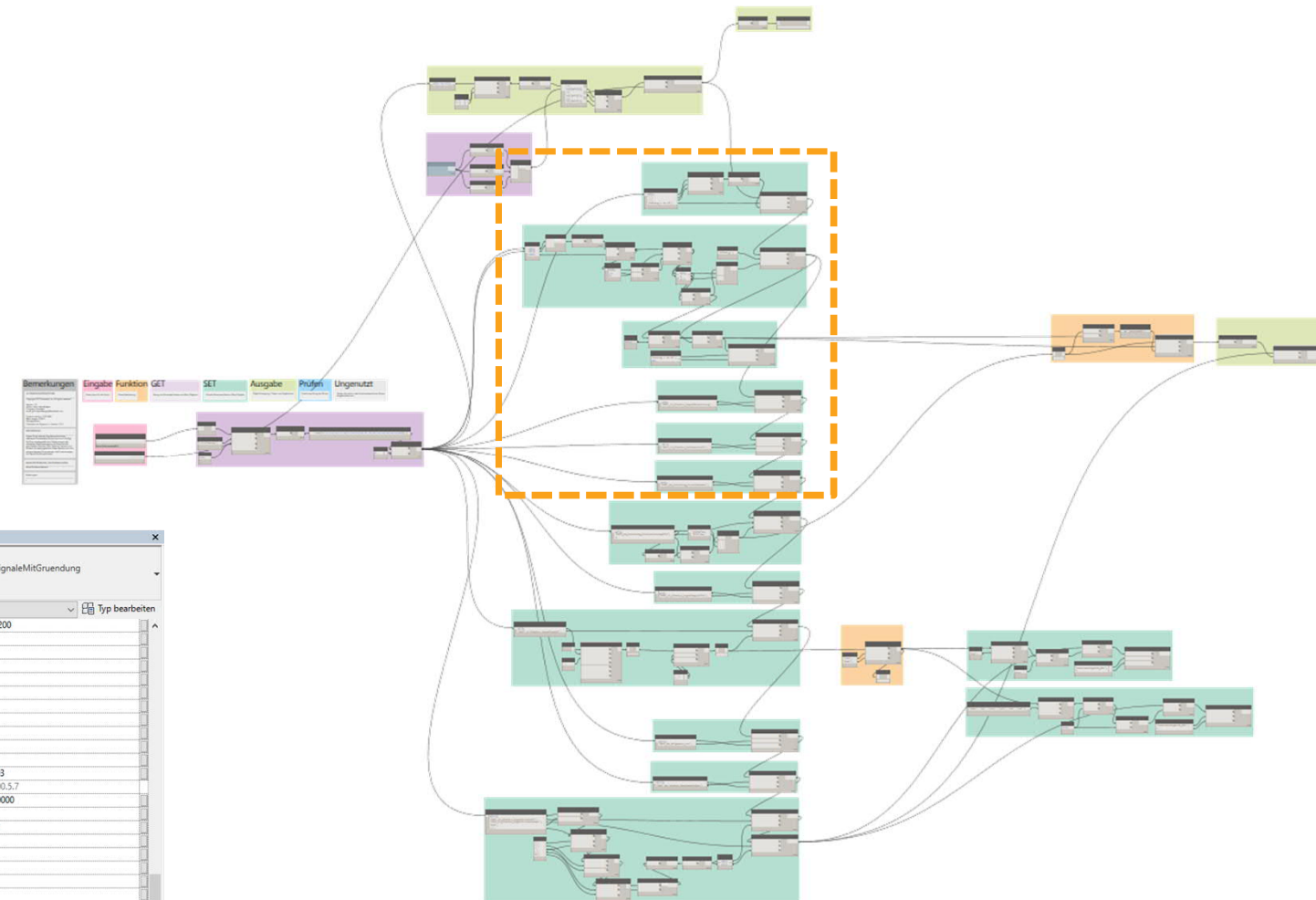
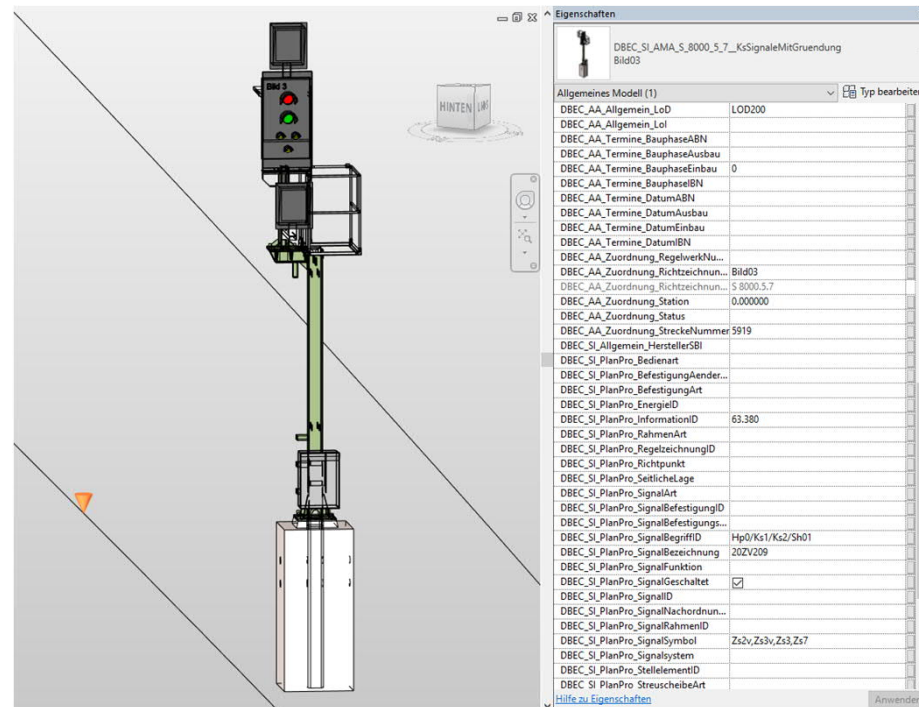
# The Dynamo Script

- Data import from Excel file (ProSig/ProCoPS export)
- Coordinate adjustments and placement of initial signal family type



# The Dynamo Script

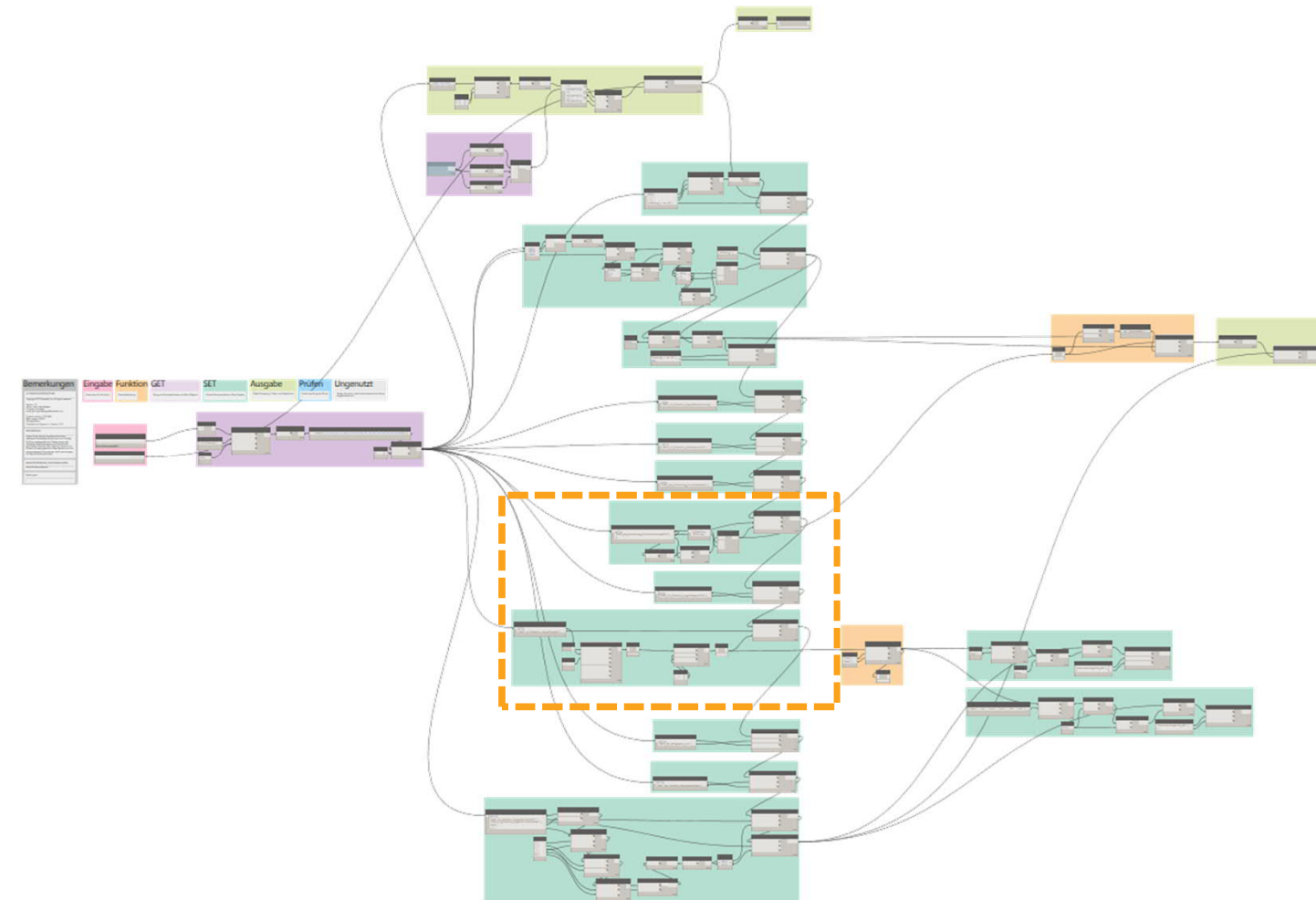
- Data import from Excel file (ProSig/ProCoPS export)
- Coordinate adjustments and placement of initial signal family type
- information settings
  - rotation about insertion point (track axis), offset from insertion point (track axis), mirrored y/n, signal mark, chainage, rail track number





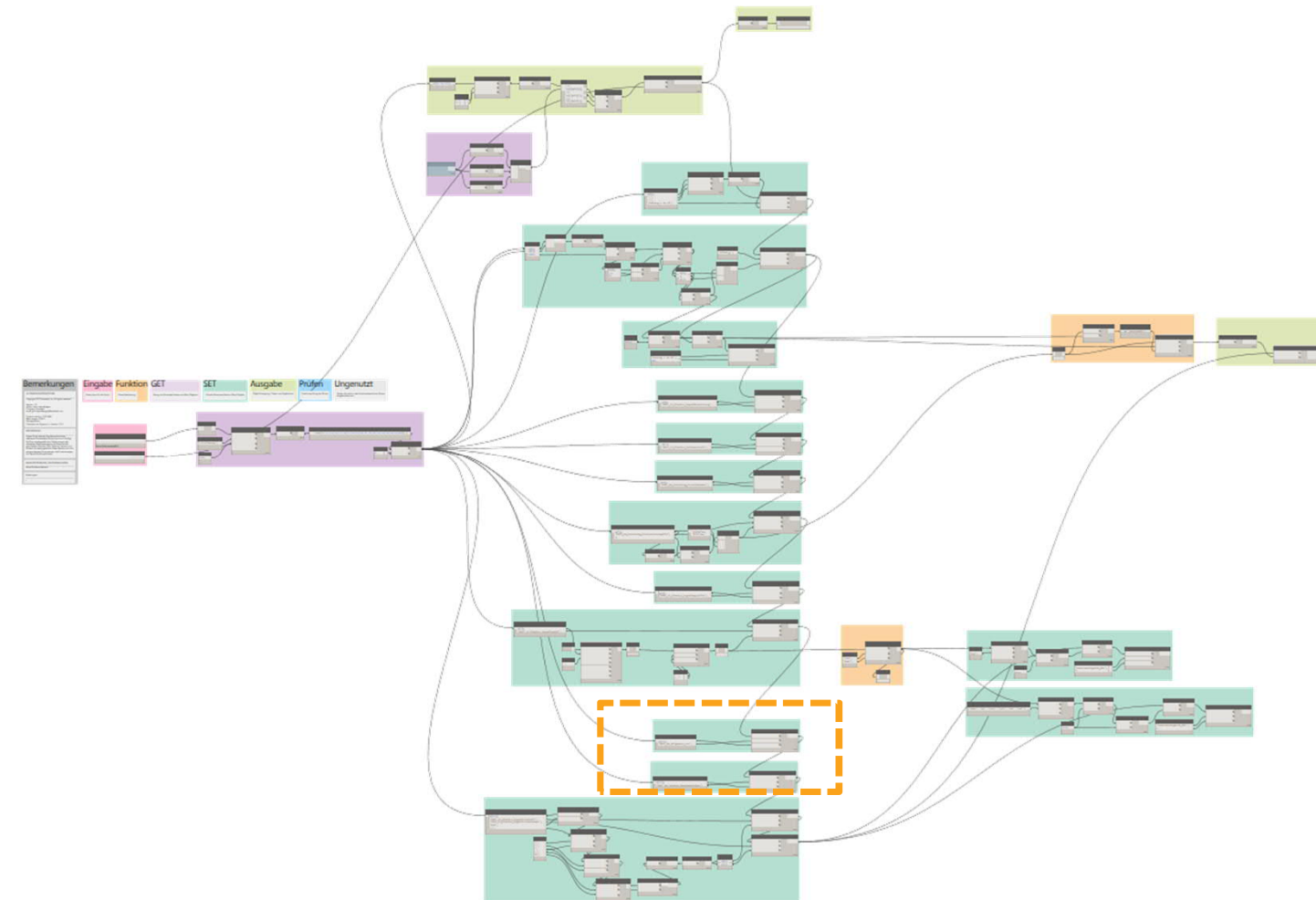
# The Dynamo Script

- Data import from Excel file (ProSig/ProCoPS export)
- Coordinate adjustments and placement of initial signal family type
- information settings
  - rotation about insertion point (track axis), offset from insertion point (track axis), mirrored y/n, signal mark, chainage, rail track number
  - signal type, signal background, indicator above, indicator below



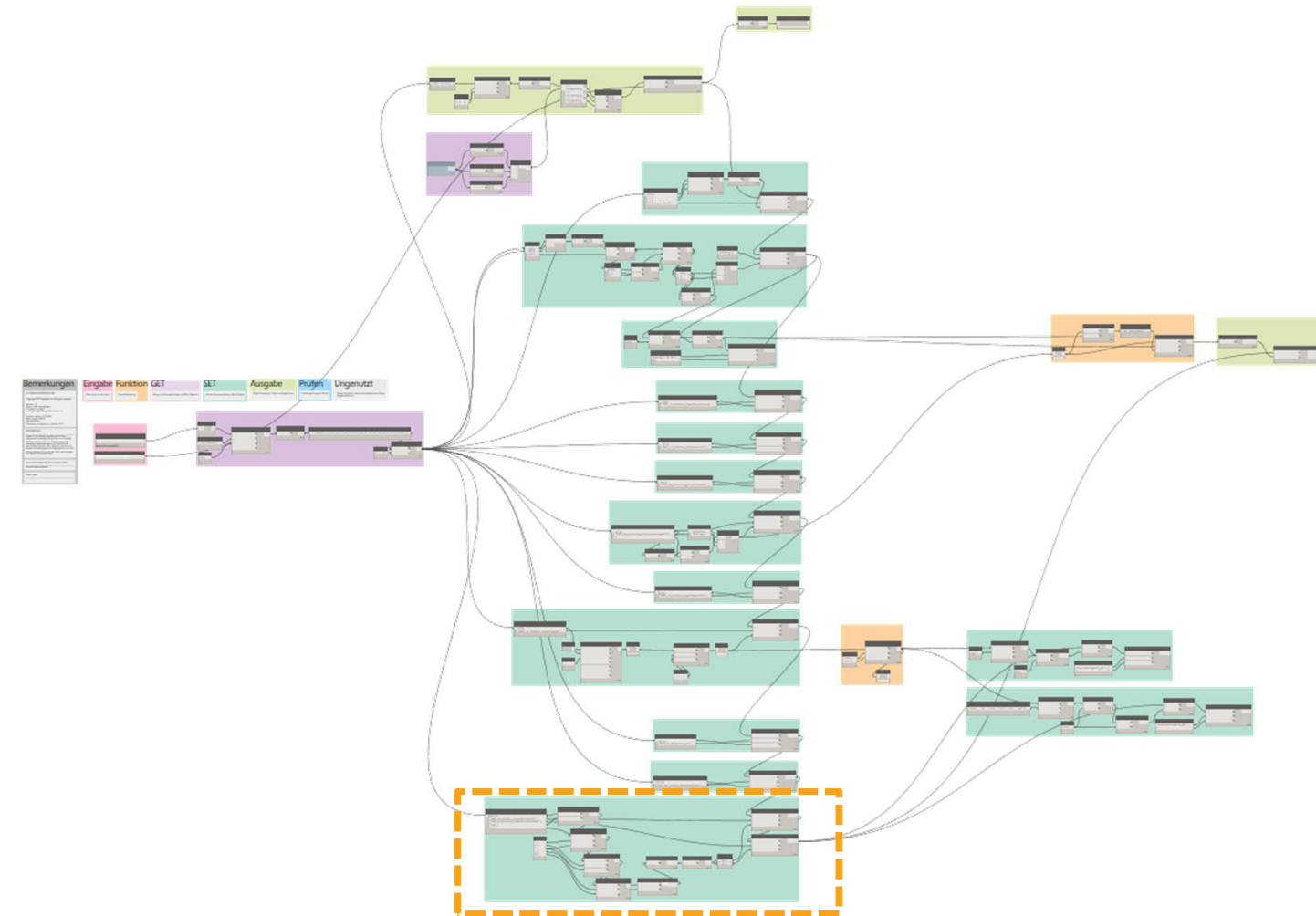
# The Dynamo Script

- Data import from Excel file (ProSig/ProCoPS export)
- Coordinate adjustments and placement of initial signal family type
- information settings
  - rotation about insertion point (track axis), offset from insertion point (track axis), mirrored y/n, signal mark, chainage, rail track number
  - signal type, signal background, indicator above, indicator below
  - LOD, construction phase



# The Dynamo Script

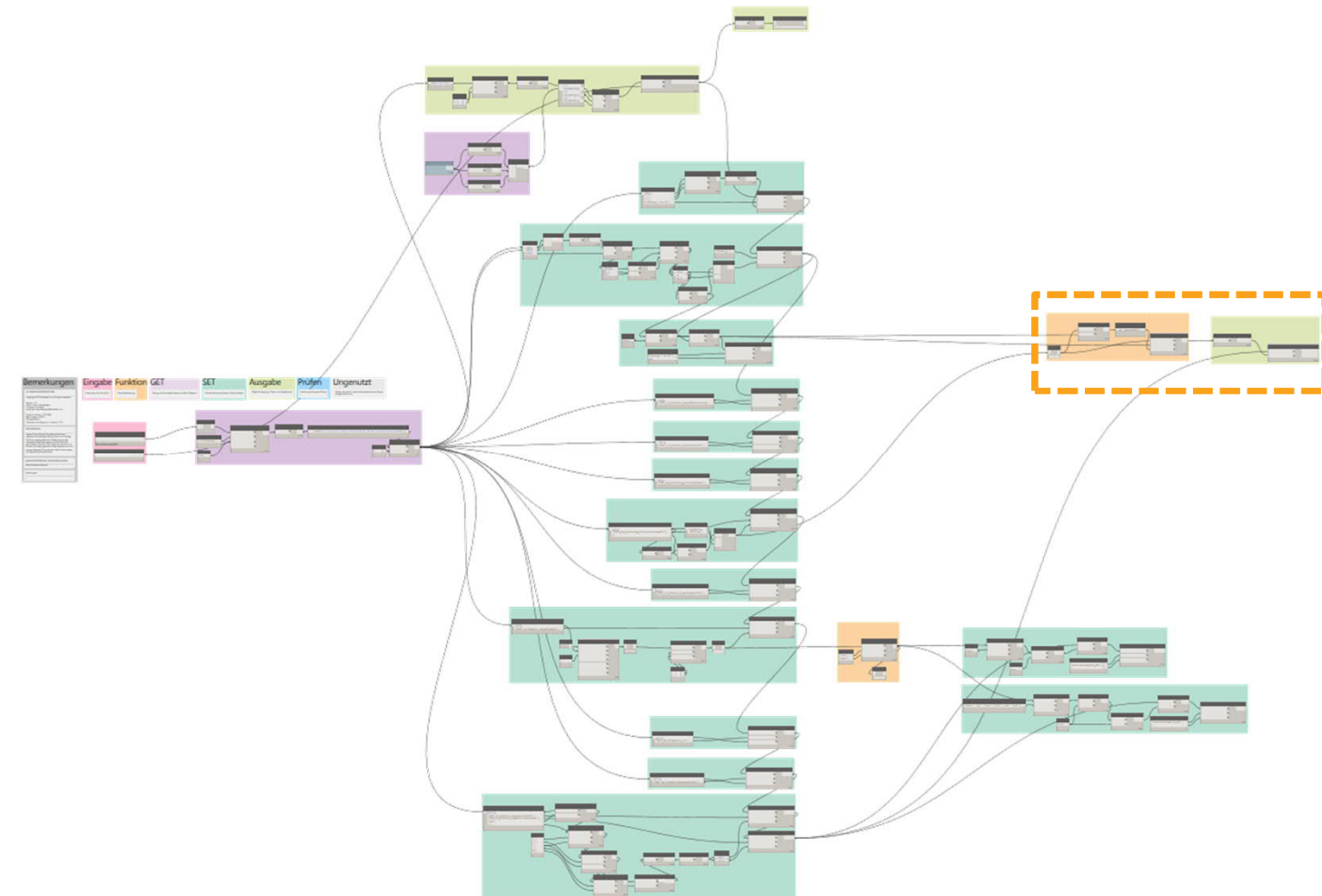
- Data import from Excel file (ProSig/ProCoPS export)
- Coordinate adjustments and placement of initial signal family type
- information settings
  - rotation about insertion point (track axis), offset from insertion point (track axis), mirrored y/n, signal mark, chainage, rail track number
  - signal type, signal background, indicator above, indicator below
  - LOD, construction phase
  - visibility target/minimum





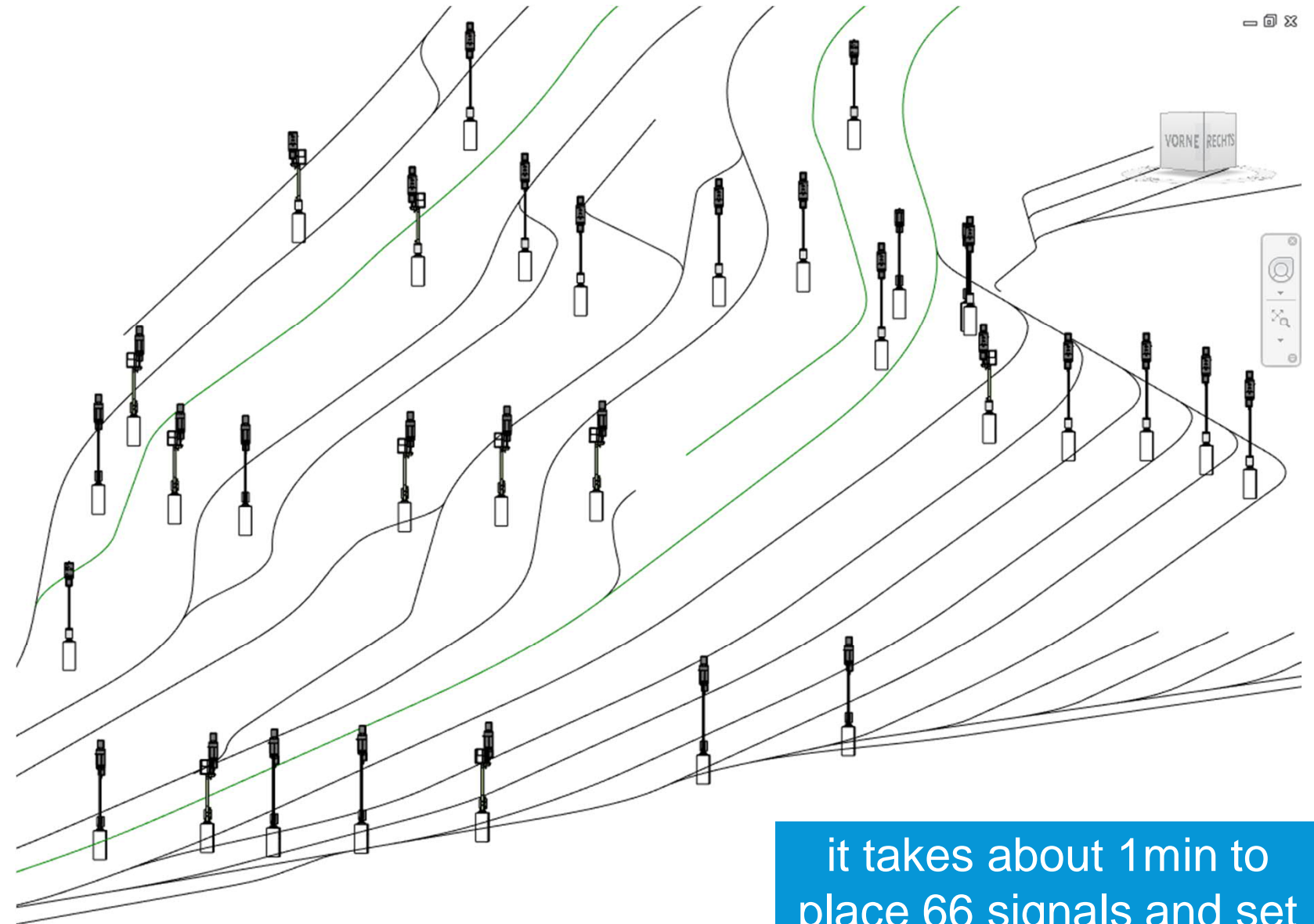
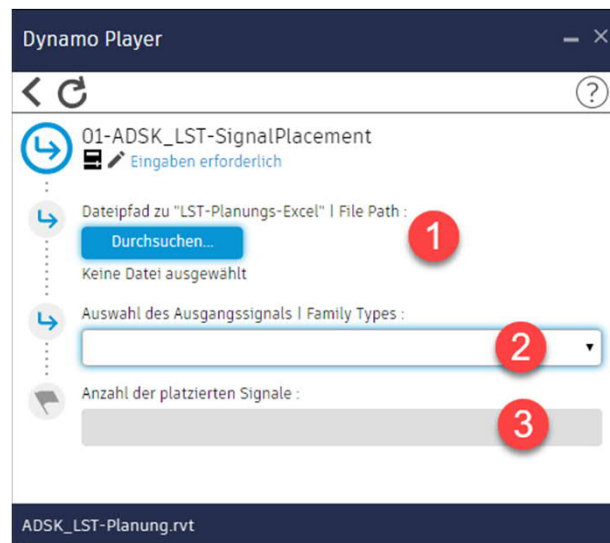
# The Dynamo Script

- Data import from Excel file (ProSig/ProCoPS export)
- Coordinate adjustments and placement of initial signal family type
- information settings
  - rotation about insertion point (track axis), offset from insertion point (track axis), mirrored y/n, signal mark, chainage, rail track number
  - signal type, signal background, indicator above, indicator below
  - LOD, construction phase
  - visibility target/minimum
- setting of the correct family type according to “signal type”



# User Interface & Results

- User Interface: Dynamo Player
  - (1) file path ProSig/ProCoPS Excel file
  - (2) initial signal family type
  - (3) result of how many signals were placed



it takes about 1min to place 66 signals and set all their information

# Sight distance check



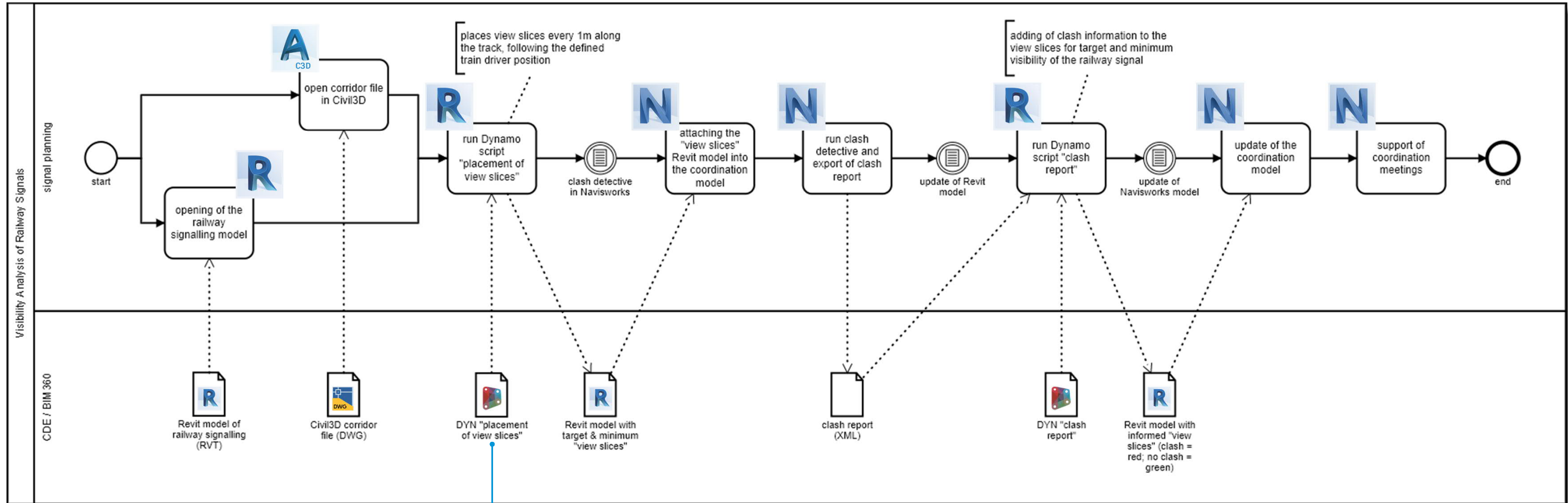


A 3D wireframe model of a railway track layout. The tracks are represented by white lines on a grey ground plane. Several signal masts are positioned along the tracks. A specific signal mast on the left is highlighted with a green cone of visibility extending along the track. A red line marks the minimum visibility distance for the red light of that signal. The background shows a blue sky and some distant structures.

# Visibility Analysis of Railway Signals

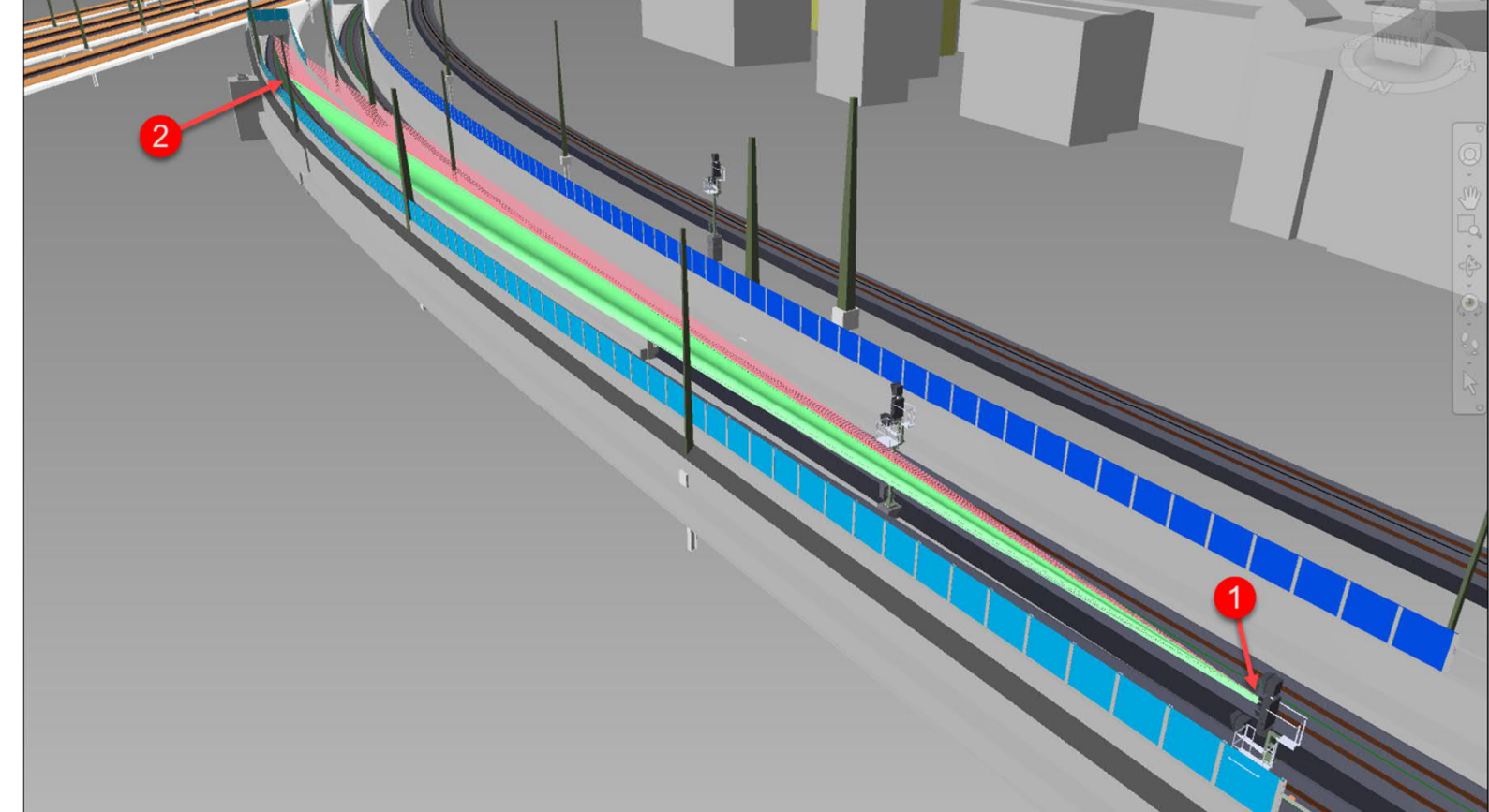
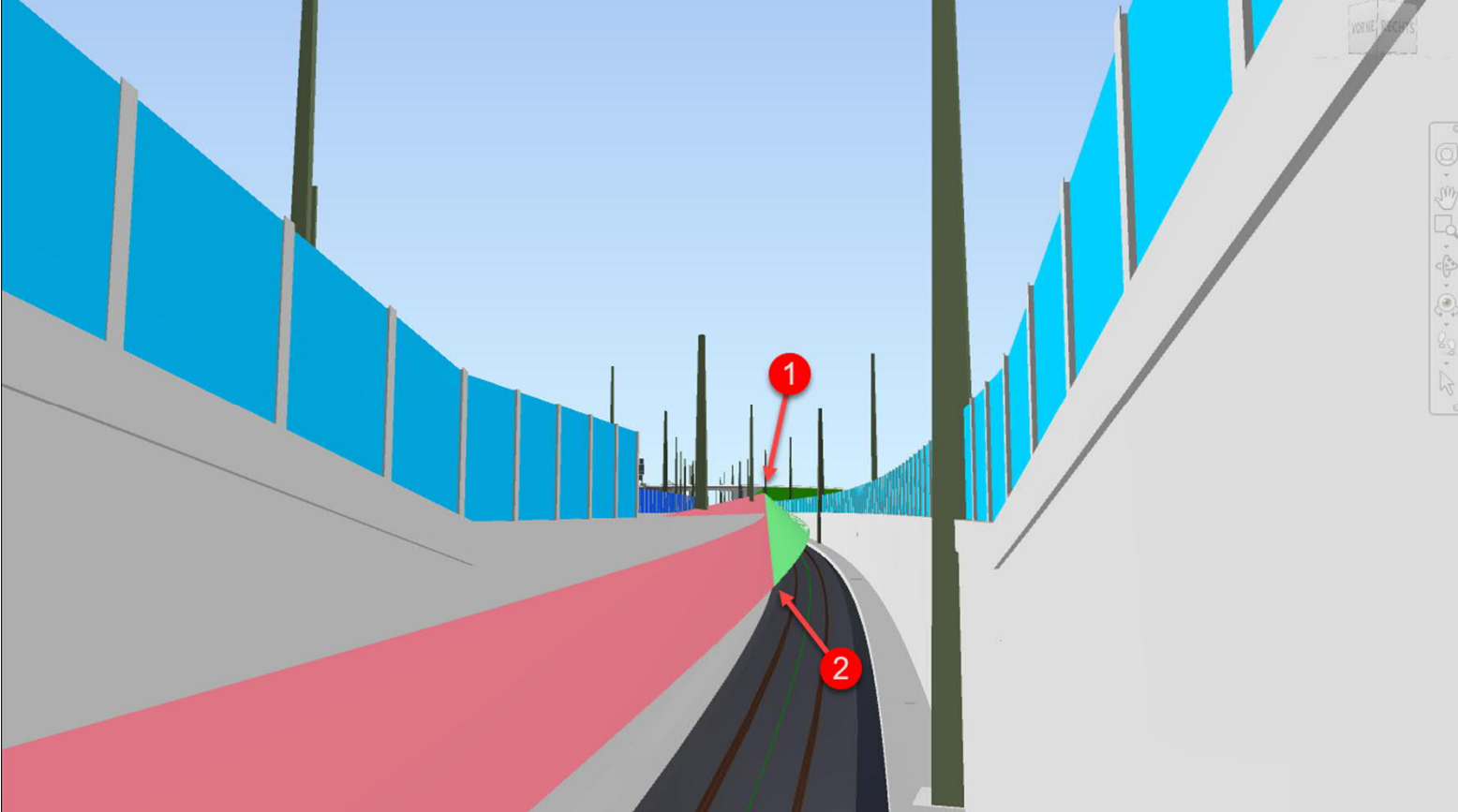
In this workflow the target & minimum visibility of the red light of a railway signal will be analyzed from a specific train driver position

# Visibility Analysis of Railway Signals



Note: includes nodes from the CivilConnection package!

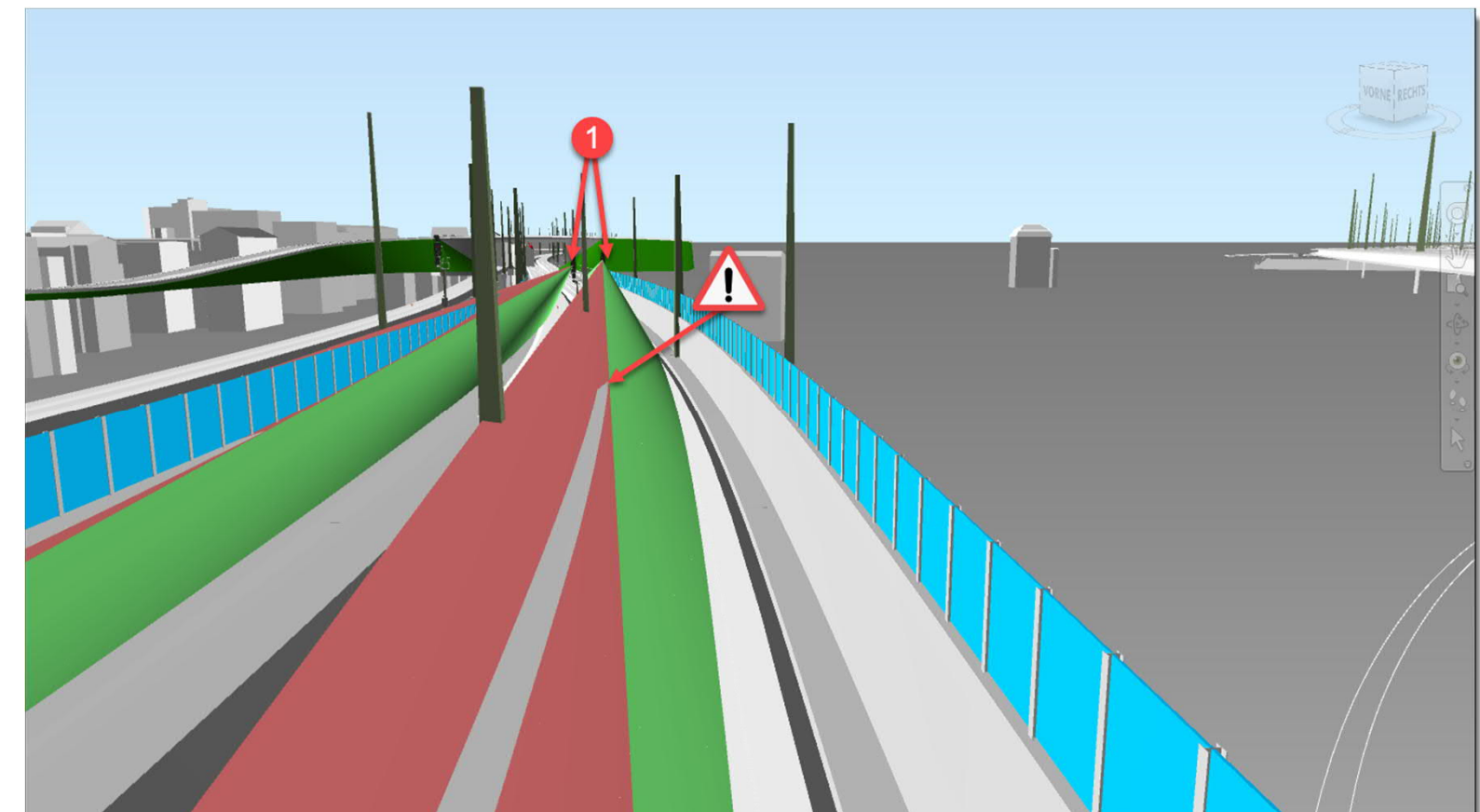




## Results in Navisworks

The updated Revit model of the view slices in Navisworks, can now support coordination meetings to find the best location to place the analyzed railway signal.

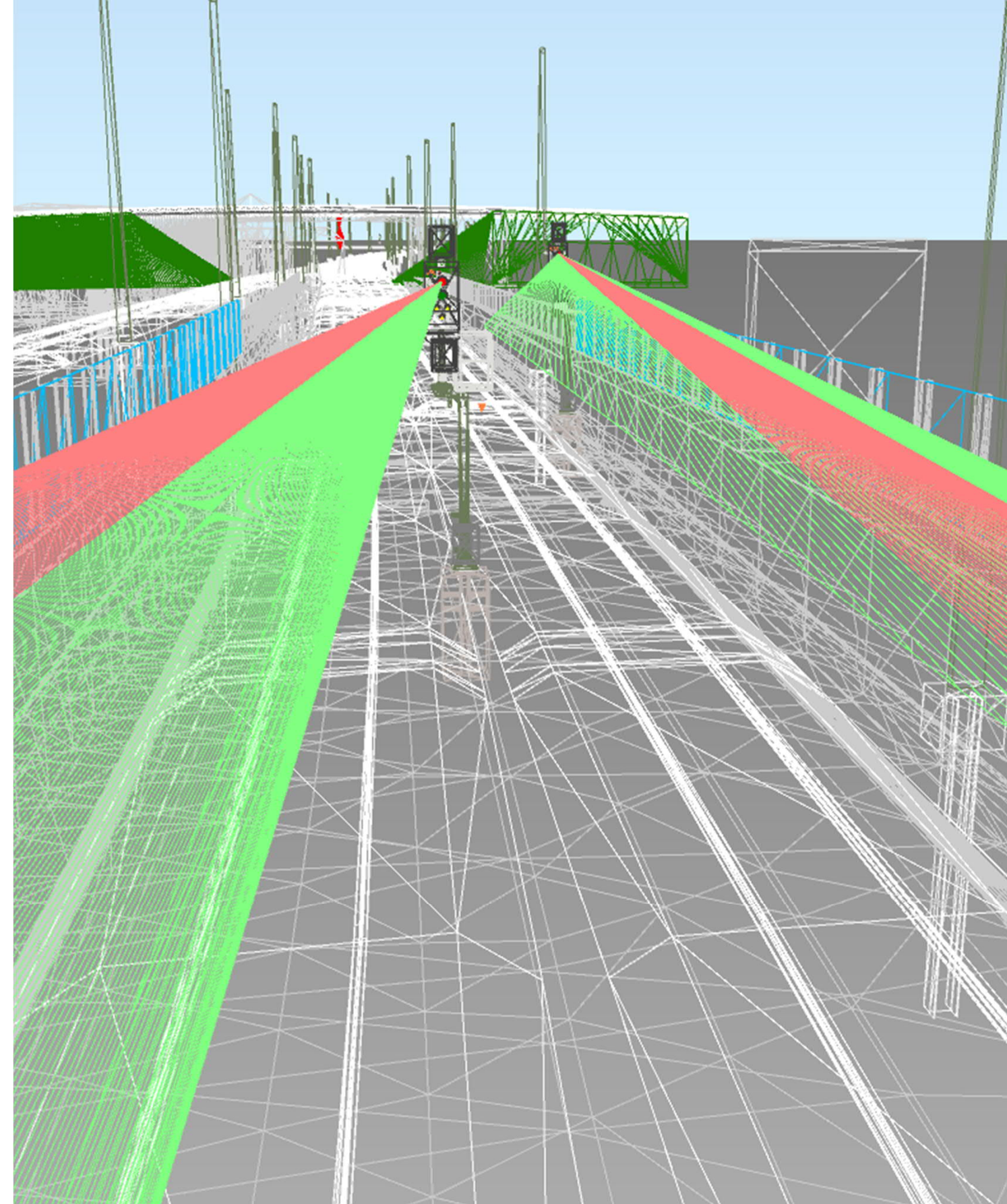
- 1) the signal (red light)
- 2) Start of the visibility of the signal for the train driver  
(position: 3,0m above track center)





# Result of Visibility Analysis

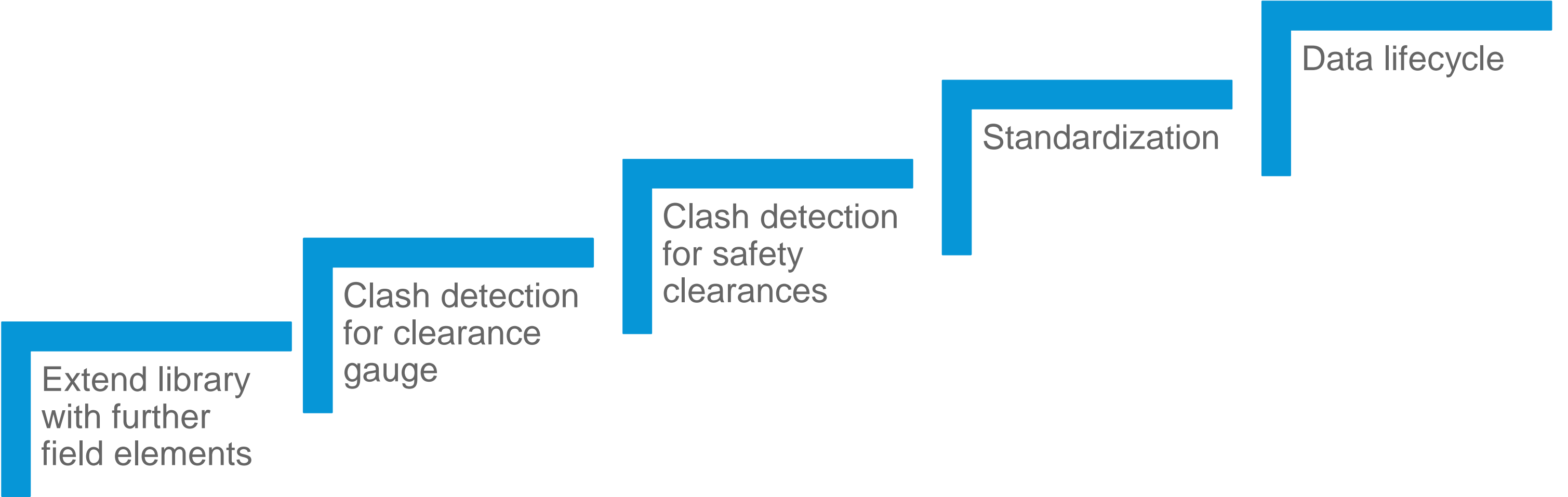
- Prerequisites
  - DWG with “train driver position corridor”
  - Revit model of railway signals
  - focus on the red light of the railway signal
  - train driver position 3,0m above track center line
    - all other train driver positions, 8x in total, are prepared in the Civil3D corridor (sub-assembly) and can be addressed in this process
- Result for a train speed of 120 km/h
  - right signal:  
red light is visible for 5,1 sec (170m); minimum 6,75 sec (225m)
  - left signal:  
red light is visible for more than 6,75 sec (225m)



# Looking forward



## Next steps



Extend library  
with further  
field elements

Clash detection  
for clearance  
gauge

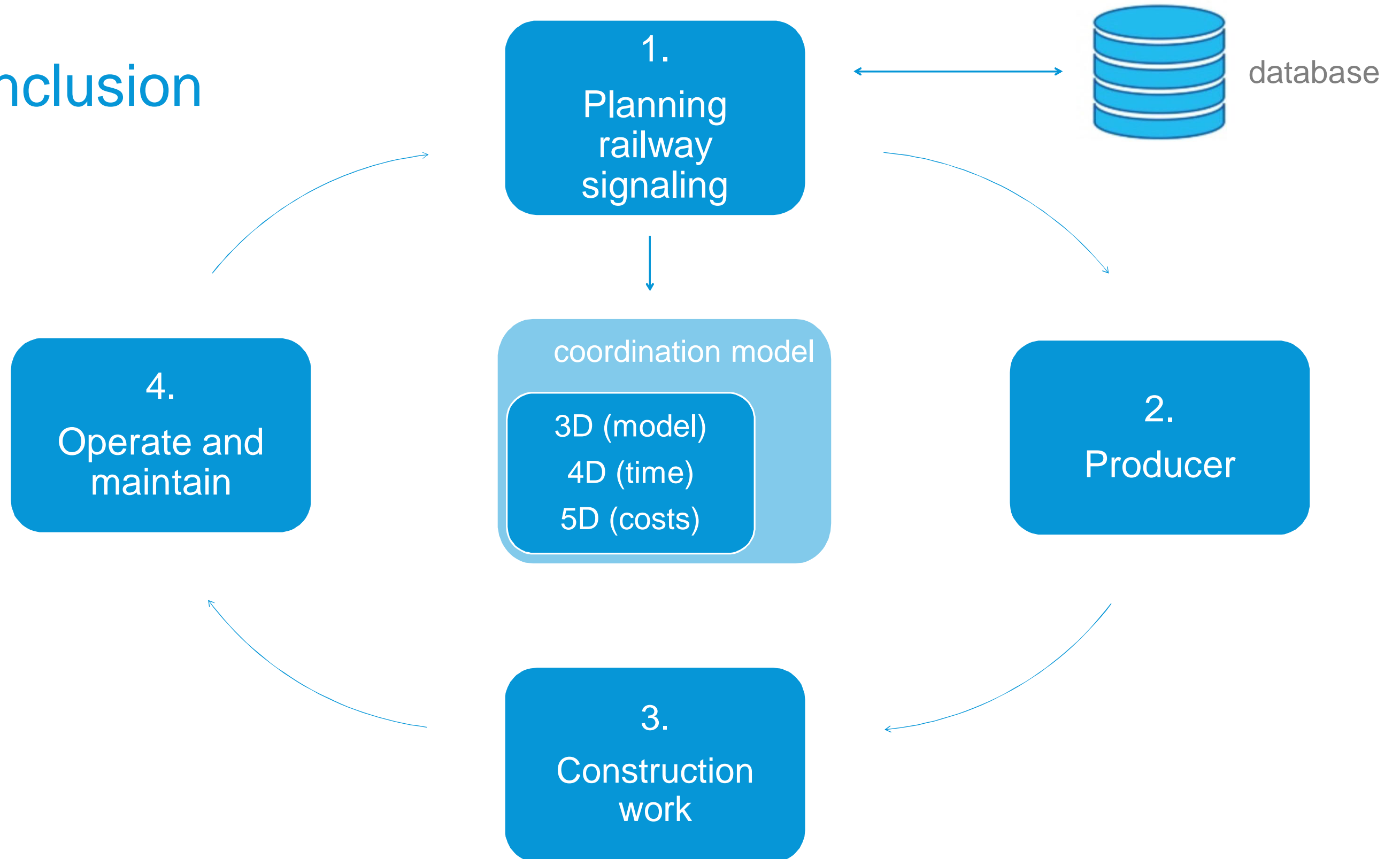
Clash detection  
for safety  
clearances

Standardization

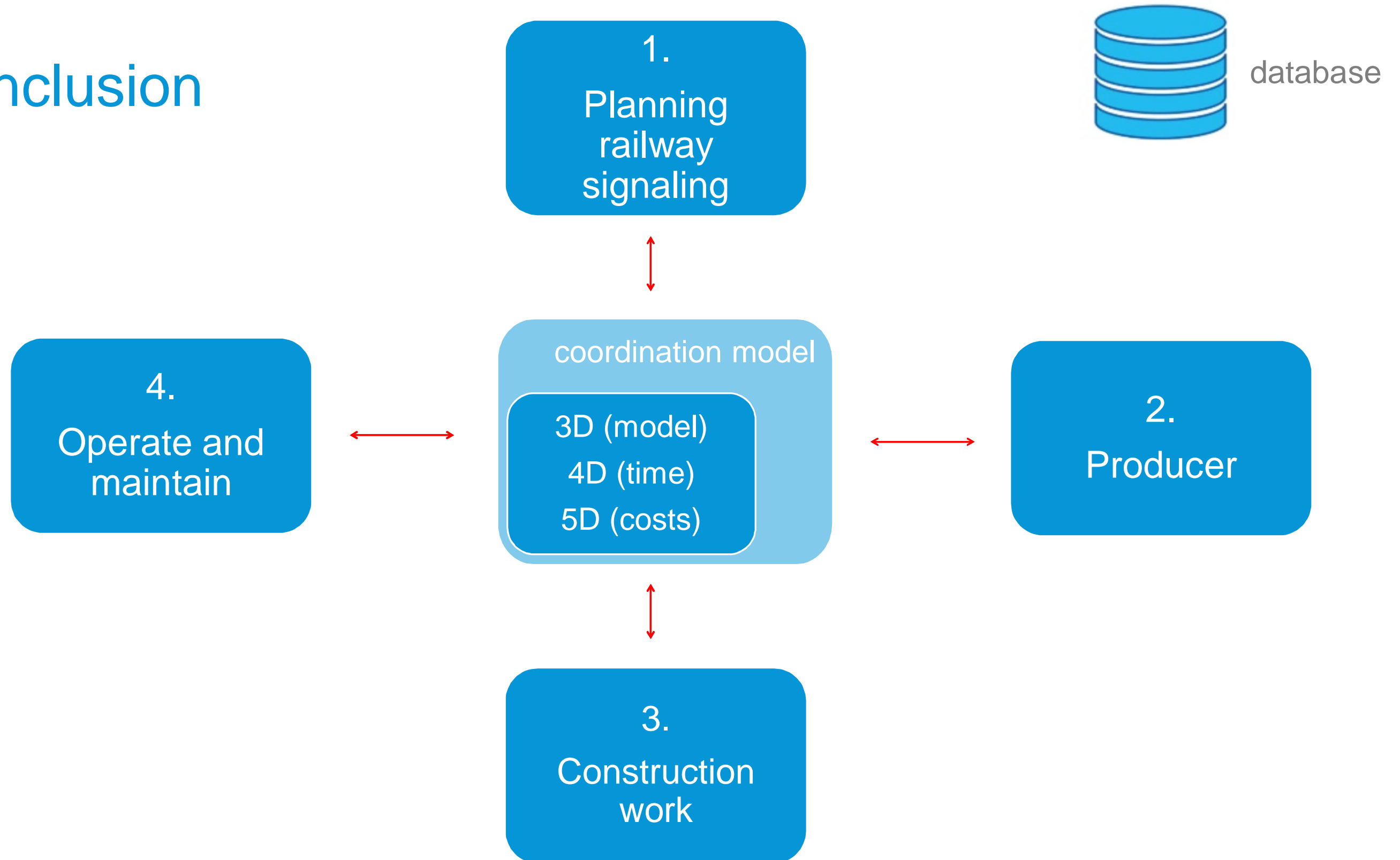
Data lifecycle



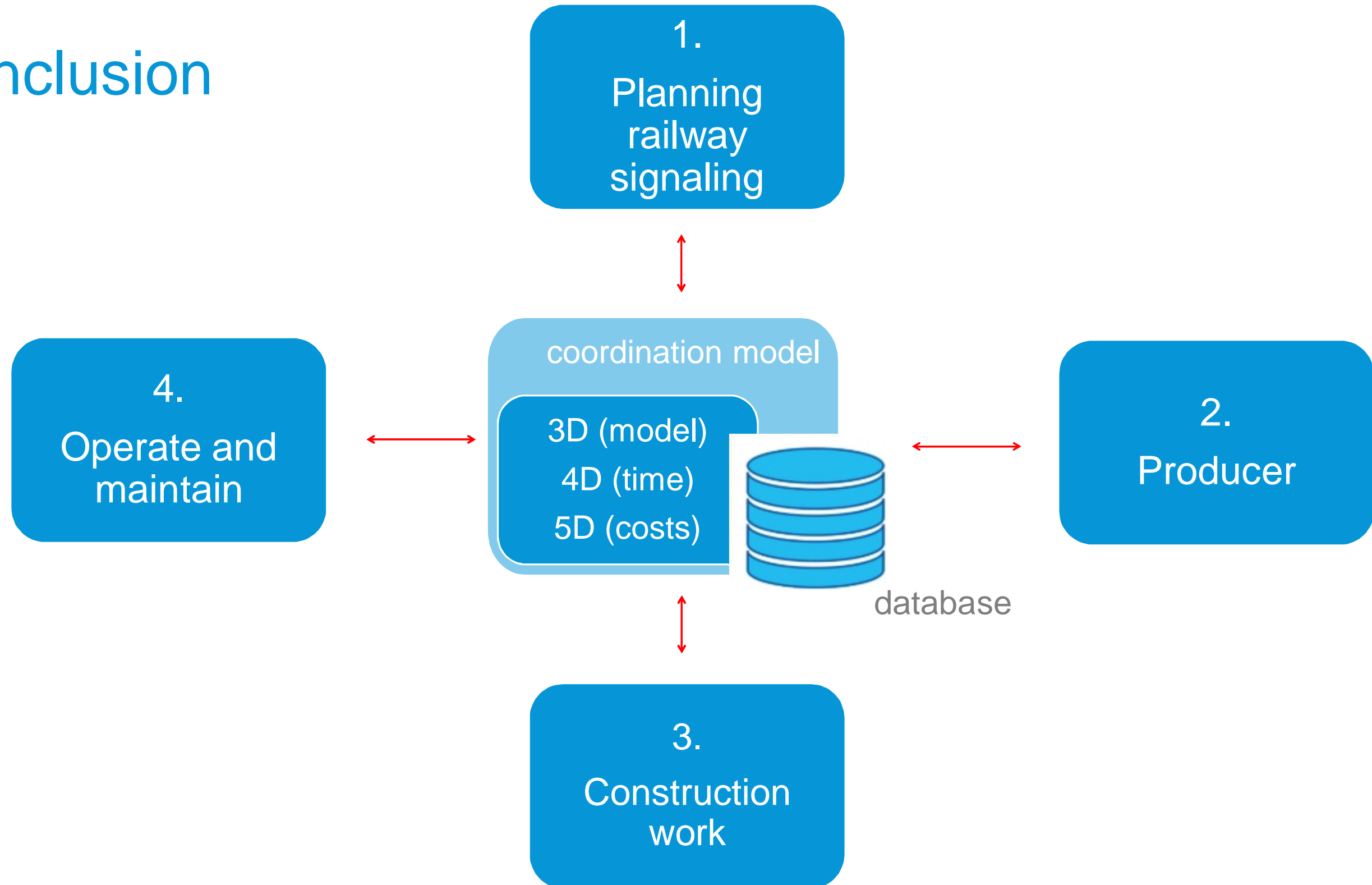
# Conclusion



# Conclusion



# Conclusion







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