

PLM needs from Swedish automotive and transportation industry

Focus area: Part, Geometry and Position

ODETTE Sweden

Product Structure and Configuration



Workshop purpose

- Outline common needs from Swedish automotive industry based on findings in the Odette Structure and Configuration work group
- Explain rationale behind the presented needs
- Build business understanding at COTS PLM vendors
- Answer questions related to the presented needs
- Give vendors the opportunity to present their corresponding solution approach in separate meetings



Goals

Workshop goals:

- Present common needs
- Initiate discussion with vendors
- Gain vendor understanding

Overall goal:

• Implementation in COTS PLM systems

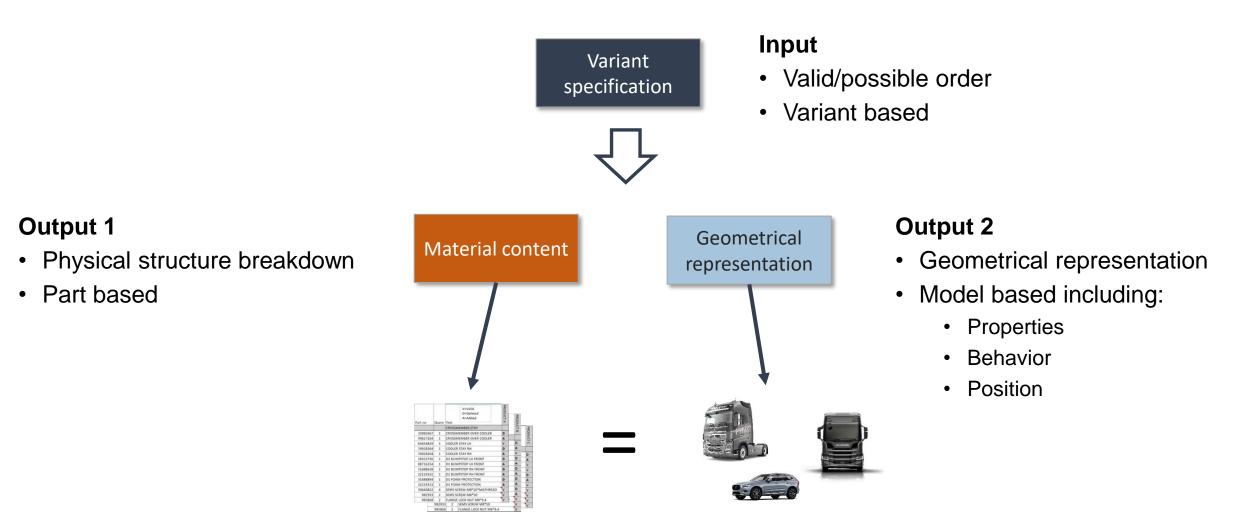


Goal statement

We need to be able to retrieve a geometric representation of any product that complies with the physical realization of the same.



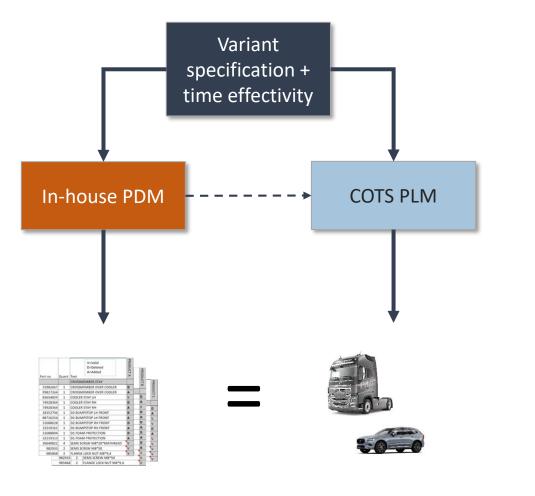
Goal description



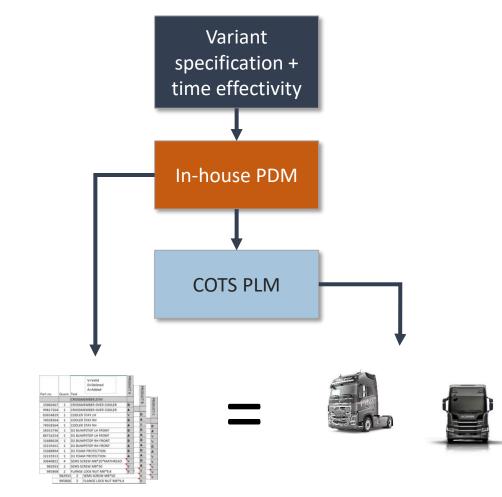


Filtering of Part and 3D Geometry Usage

Based on variant specification and time



Based on result from filtering in In-house PDM





Success factors

- Physical and virtual structure alignment
- Unambiguous documentation logic and level (building blocks)
- Support for increased complexity in product documentation (Part, 3D geometry and position)
- Consideration of the complete context during development (i.e. 150%)



Related COTS PLM Challenges

- Physical and virtual structure alignment
- In-house PDM and COTS PLM integration
- Variant driven relative positioning





General business challenges





Pre-defined, highly configurable products

- Configure to order is the basis
- With additions:
 - Easy to allow technically possible solutions based on need
 - Customer adaptations
 - Update product during complete lifecycle



Virtual product verification and usage during SWEDEN the complete lifecycle

- Reduce Physical Tests
- Improve Manufacturing efficiency
- Support Sales
- Improve Aftermarket processes





Product complexity increase

- Parallel alternative of Drivelines
- Preparation for Body works (for trucks)
- Multiple Top hats for one platform (for cars)
- Customer options and functions
- Accessories
- Industrial footprint
- Mechatronic dependencies





Related COTS PLM Challenges for trucks

- Extremely high number of resulting positions for Parts (>100.000.000.000 positions)
- No possibility for manual documentation of absolute positions
- Storage and performance issues





Physical and Geometrical structure alignment





Aligning Part usage and 3D usage

- Flexibility in usage of Objects
- Decoupling of Objects
- Variant control and effectivity of Part usage and 3D usage



Decoupling of objects

Rationale

- Different Objects follow different lifecycles
- Objects shall be possible to change independently of each other

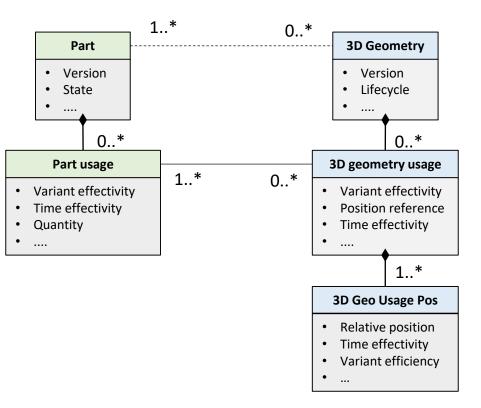
Objects

- Part
- Part Usage
- 3D Geometry
- 3D Geometry Usage
- 3D Geometry Usage Position



Aligning Part usage and 3D geometrical data

- Part Usage and positioned 3D Geometry Usage are aligned in the same structure/system
- COTS PLM masters the alignment relations
- 3D Geometry Usage is described in the context of the Part Usage





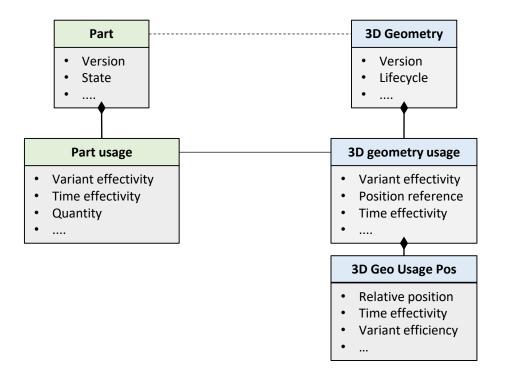
Examples

- The need of relation differs between use cases:
 - Hoses, wiring harnesses etc.
 - Different states (loaded/unloaded)
 - Different colors
 - Surface treatments



Variant control

- Part Usage, 3D Geometry Usage and 3D Geometry Usage Position must be separate Objects with Variant and time effectivity to cover the described use-cases
- The variant combination of the Part Usage and of the 3D Geometry usage must be combined to resolve the position



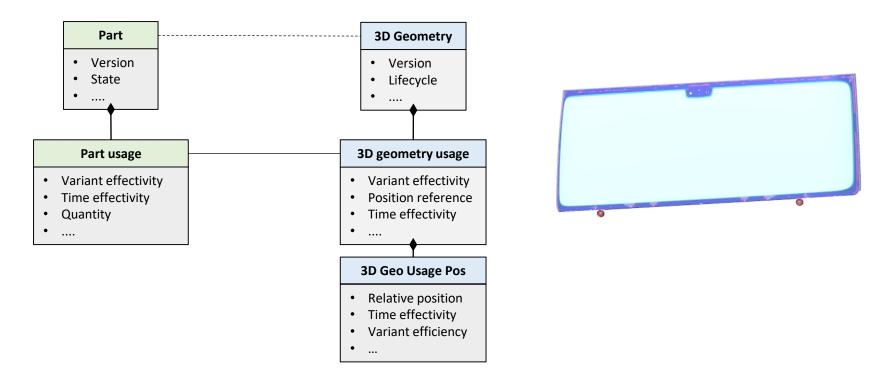


Part Usage Quantity 1, single spec

Description

• Front windscreen has quantity 1 in material struture





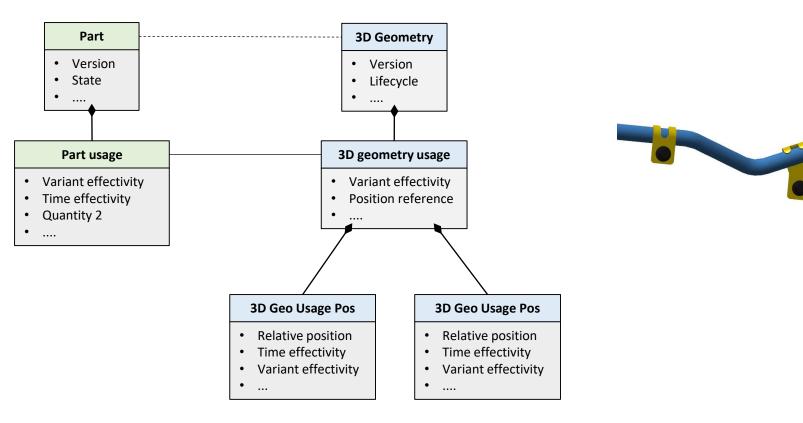


Part Usage Quantity > 1, single spec

Description

• A screw has quantity 2 in the material structure



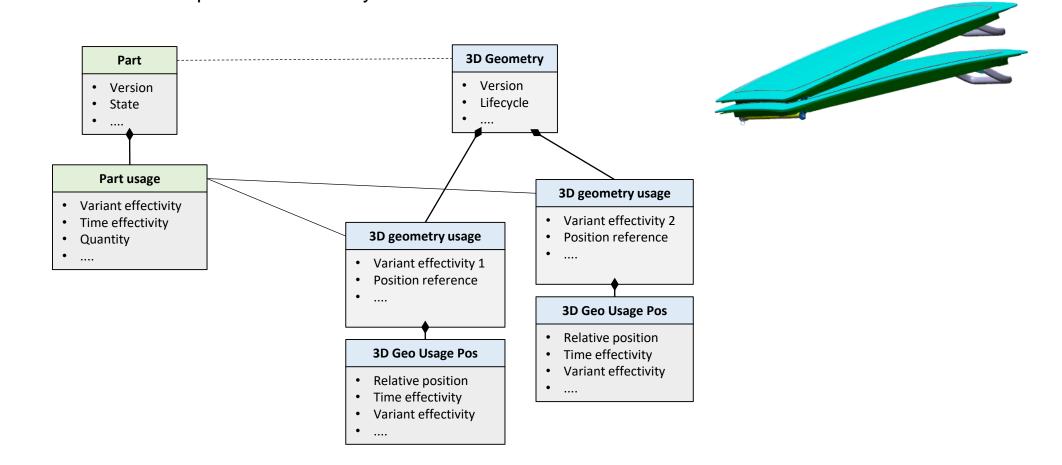




Position driven by variant, multi spec

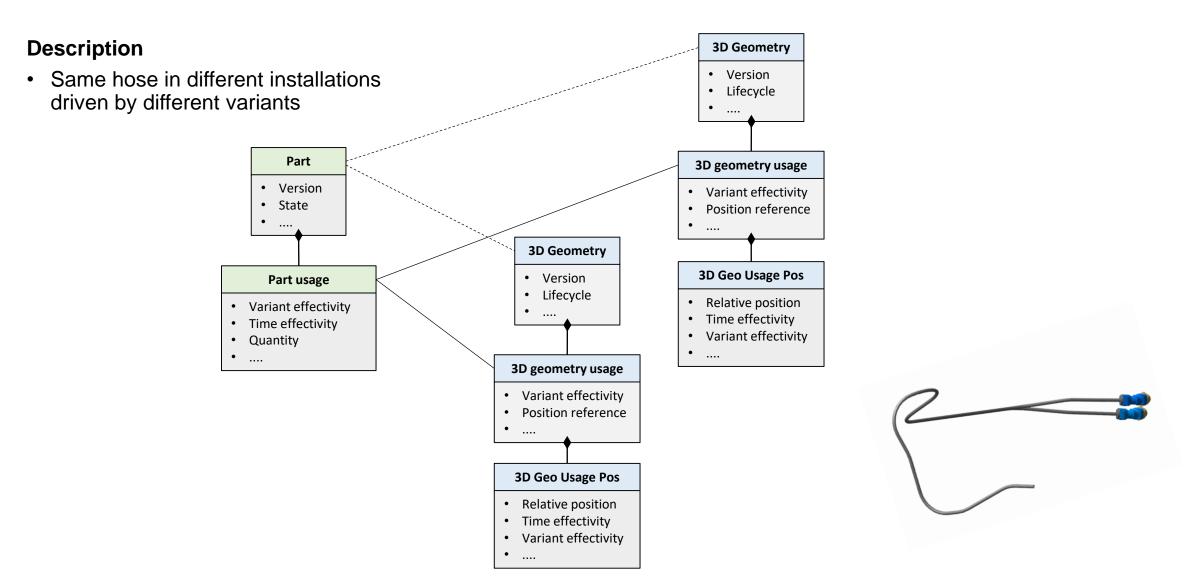
Description

• Same Roof hatch on different positions driven by different variants





One Part has several geometries, Multi spec

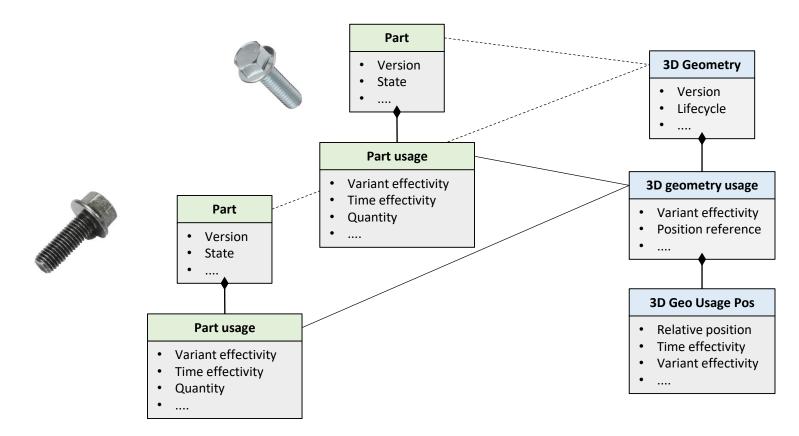




Surface treatment, Multi-spec

Description

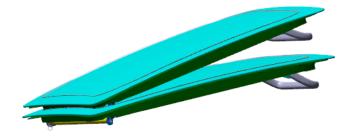
Same 3D Geometry for screws with the same dimensions, but different surface treatments





Variant control, cont.

- Alternative positions for each 3D Geometry
 Usage is controlled by Variants
- Position Variant is needed in the COTS PLM





In-house PDM and COTS PLM integration





In-house PDM

Material/Physical structure master

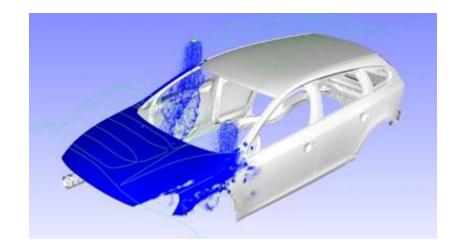
- Management of Engineering effectivity
 - Time and Variant
- Engineering Change and Release Definition of Product Configuration
- Variants and rules





COTS PLM

- Geometrical Structure master
 - Change and Release
- Masters the alignment relations
- Positioning of Geometries in the vehicle
- Base for all virtual authoring, simulation, preparation, analysis and collaboration

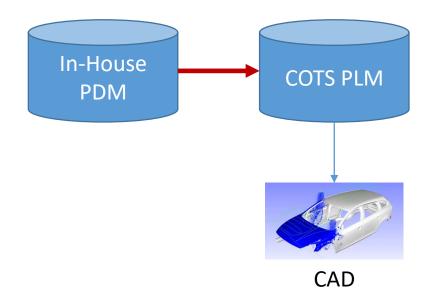




Information flow

Parts and part usages mastered in In-house PDM should be synchronized to COTS PLM

- Instant synchronization
- Standard format for information flow
 Geometries and geometry usages are connected to parts and part usages in COTS PLM





Variant driven relative positioning





Relative positioning

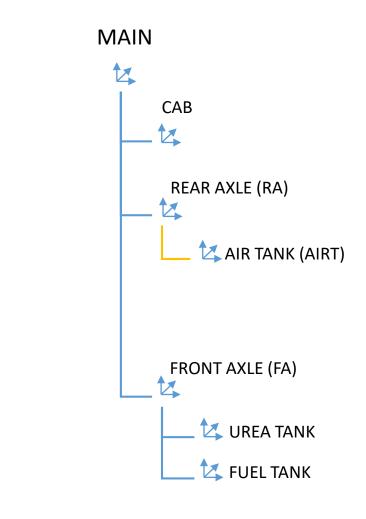
Positioning of a Geometry is always dependent on the individual product configuration for complex, configurable products with geometrical constraints.





Relative positioning

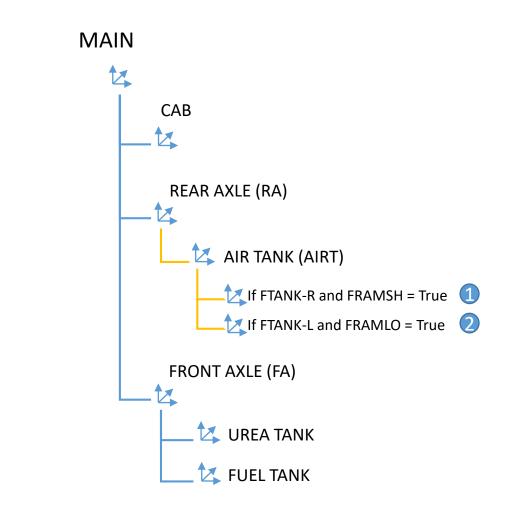
• The positioning references shall be documented in a hierarchical structure





Position variance

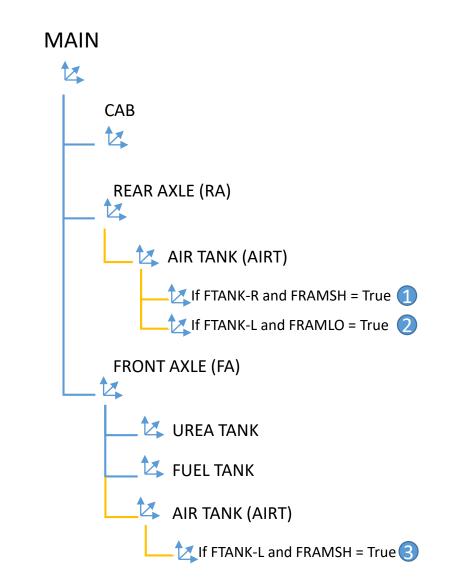
- The position references or 3D geometry usage position may have different positions dependent on product configuration – offset positions
- Offset positions are controlled by variants and time effectivity





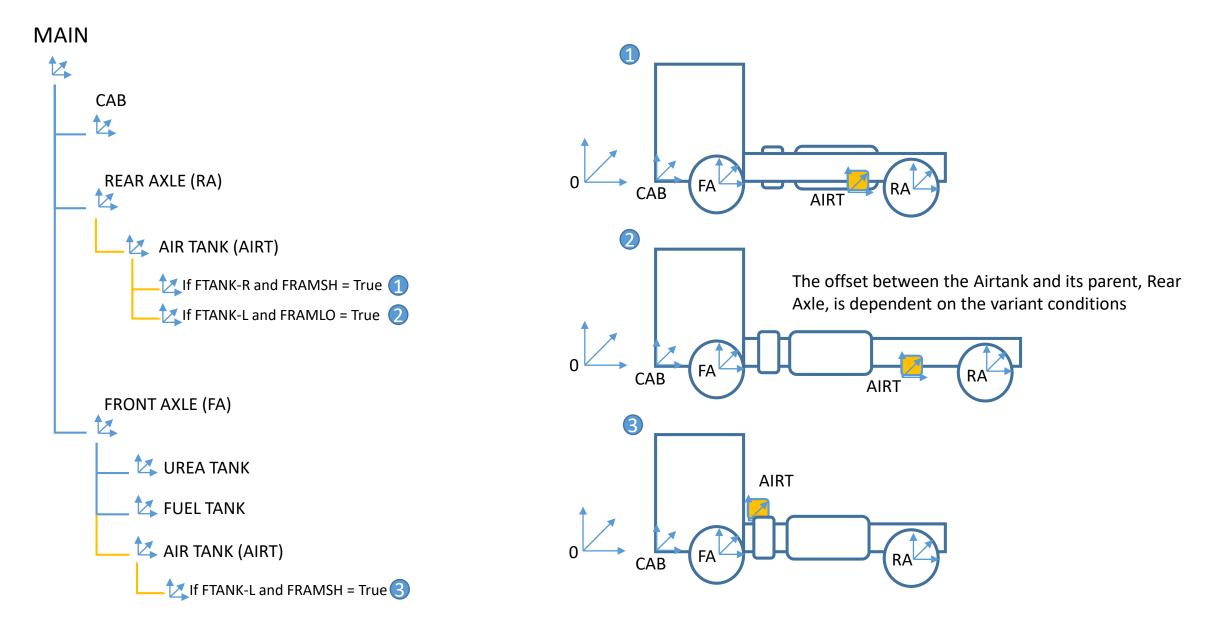
Parent child relationships

- A position reference can have different "parents" in the hierarchy
- All parent child relationships between position references are controlled by variant and time effectivity
- Variant and time effectivity and can be applied to each level



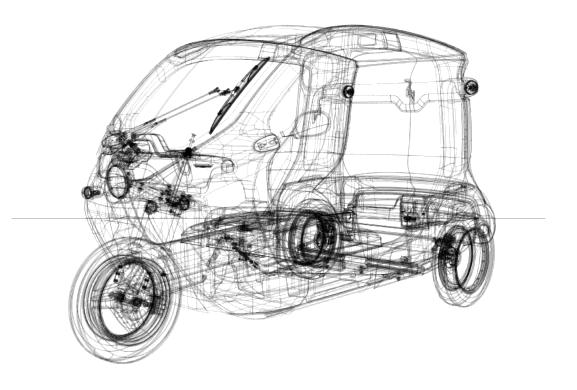
Illustrative example of relative positioning







Virtual vehicle





Virtual vehicle

DMU = filtered product structure with a 3D result

- Multi-spec visualization (>100%)
- Component based Center-of-the-world
- Intelligent Filtering based on Component



ambiguous = 100% material and >100% positions



Prerequisites

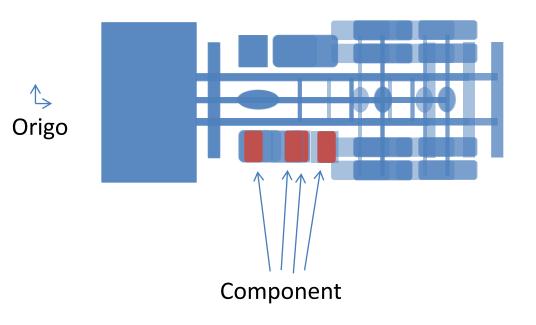
- Position reference is connected to 3D geometry usage
- Positioning information is managed in a standardized, neutral format
- Ability to display and analyze the dependencies in the positioning reference structure





Multi-spec visualization

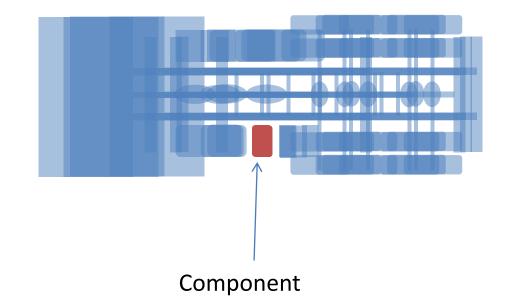
- Overlay of multiple specifications
- Ability to resolve under- and over-specified specifications
- The component position varies in different product configurations





Component based Center-of-the-world

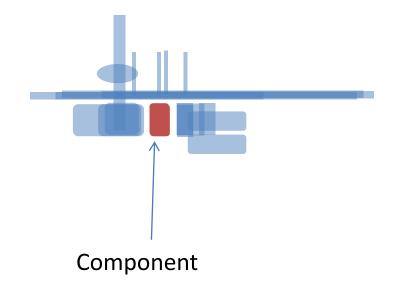
- Positioning needs to be resolved based on Component as Center-of-the world
- Any number of specifications should be generated in seconds





Intelligent filtering

- Calculate filter based on Component position and defined bounding box
- Visualize multiple specifications with Component as center with volume filter
- Possibility to define filter without displaying geometry, then load relevant geometry





Conclusions





Conclusions

- Common needs have been identified in the areas:
 - Physical and virtual structure alignment
 - In-house PDM and COTS PLM integration
 - Variant driven relative positioning
- Presented needs are common for the automotive/transportation industry in Sweden
- Solutions fulfilling needs are essential to be able to fulfil business challenges