

# STAC: Software Tuning Panels for Autonomic Control

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Automatically Identifying Software Tuning Parameters



# Project Participants

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- Nevon Brake, Queen's University
- Jim Cordy, Queen's University
- Elizabeth Dancy, IBM
- Marin Litoiu, IBM
- Valentina Popescu, IBM

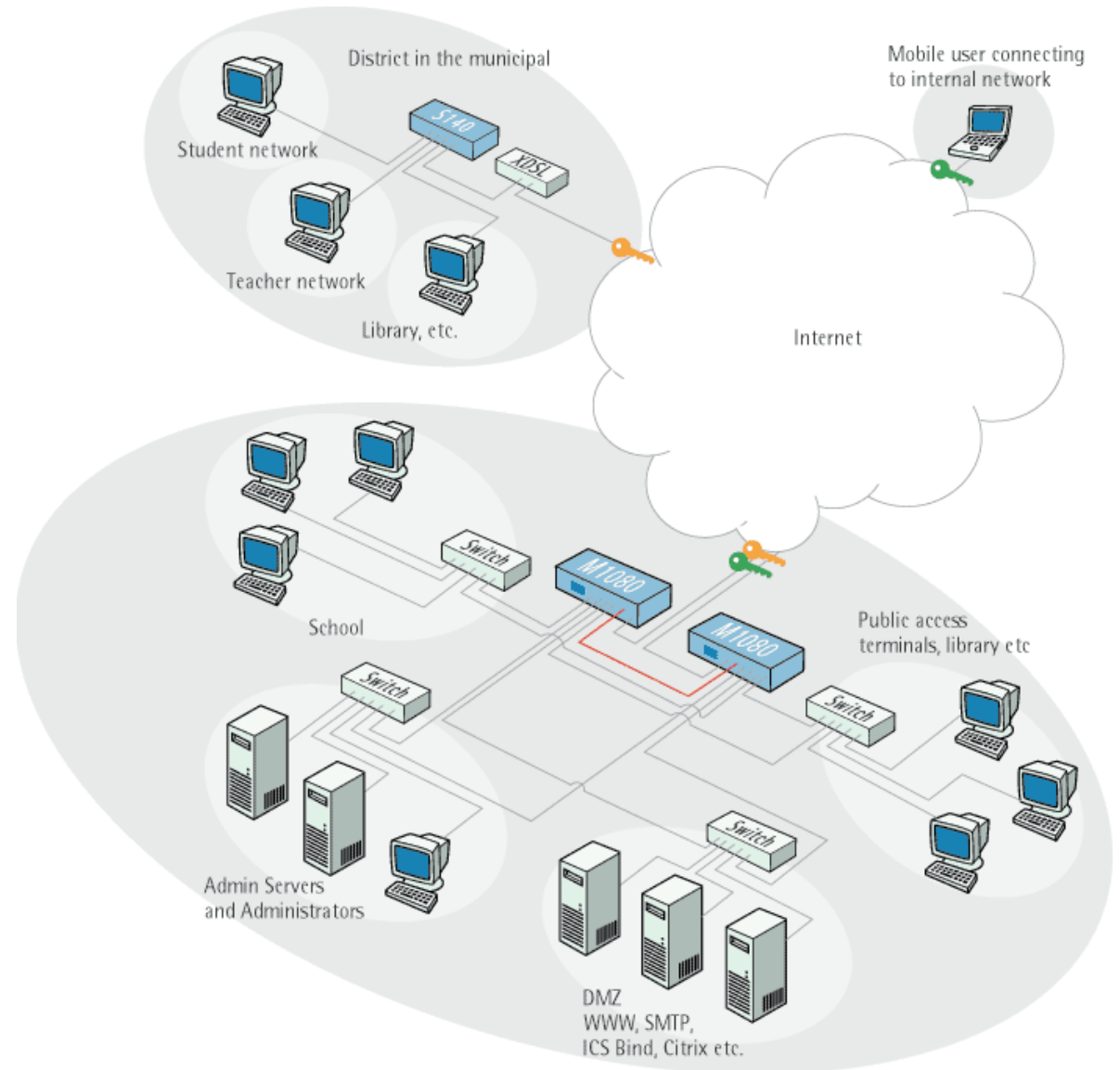
*“Computing systems’ complexity appears to be approaching the limits of human capability...”*

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The Vision of Autonomic Computing, 2003

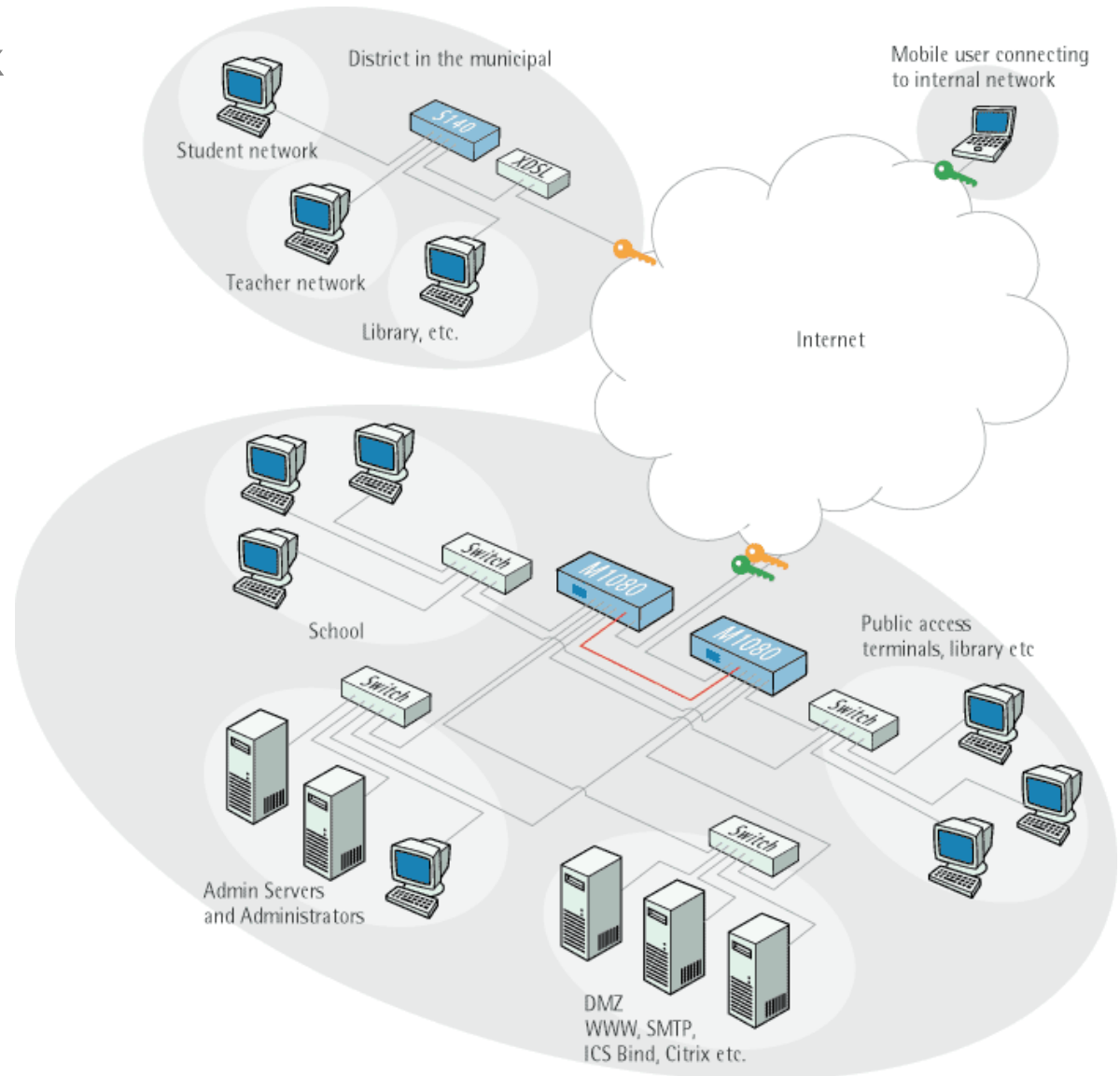
# Pervasive Computing

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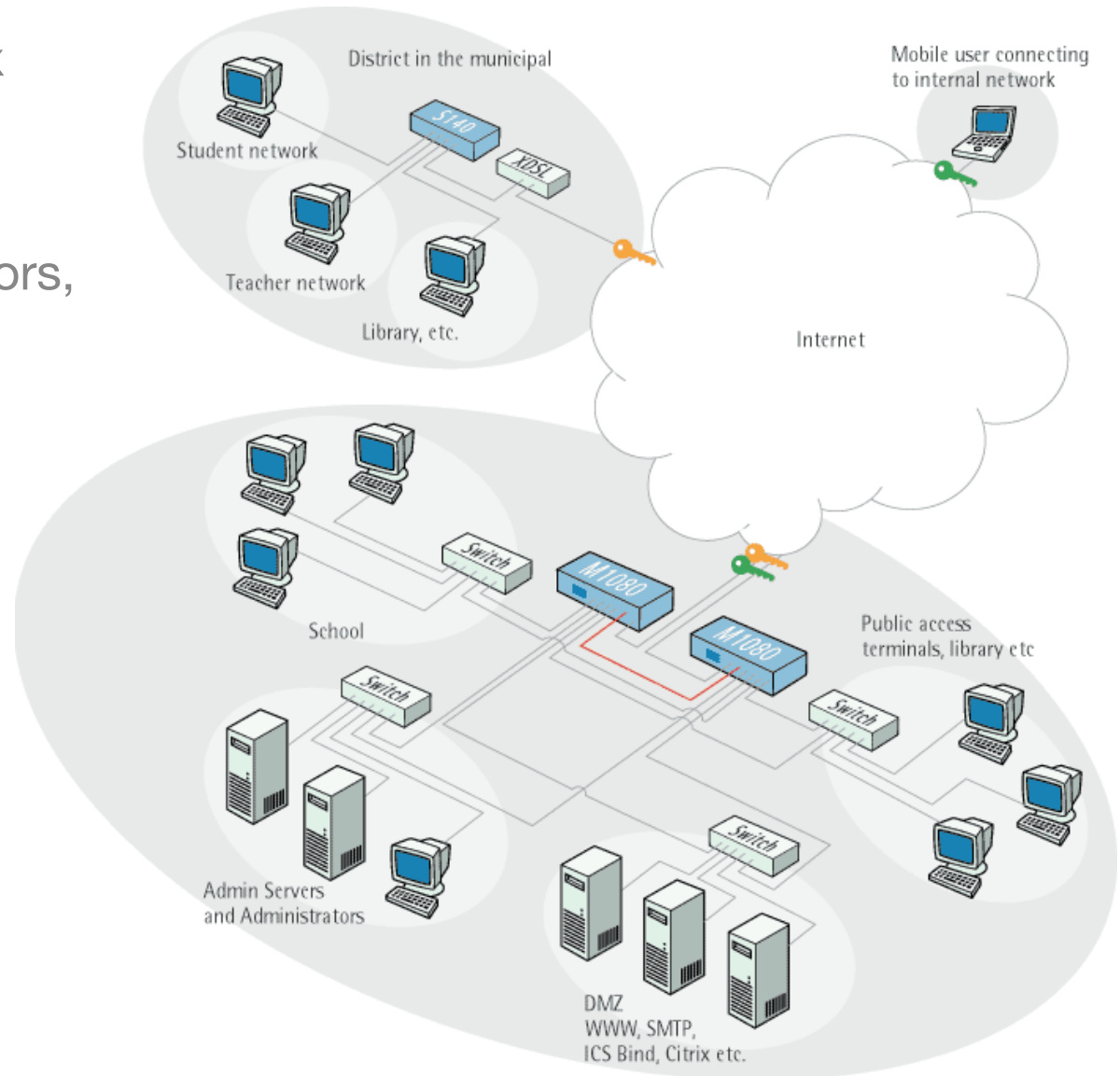
# Pervasive Computing

- Interconnected (i.e., complex dependencies)



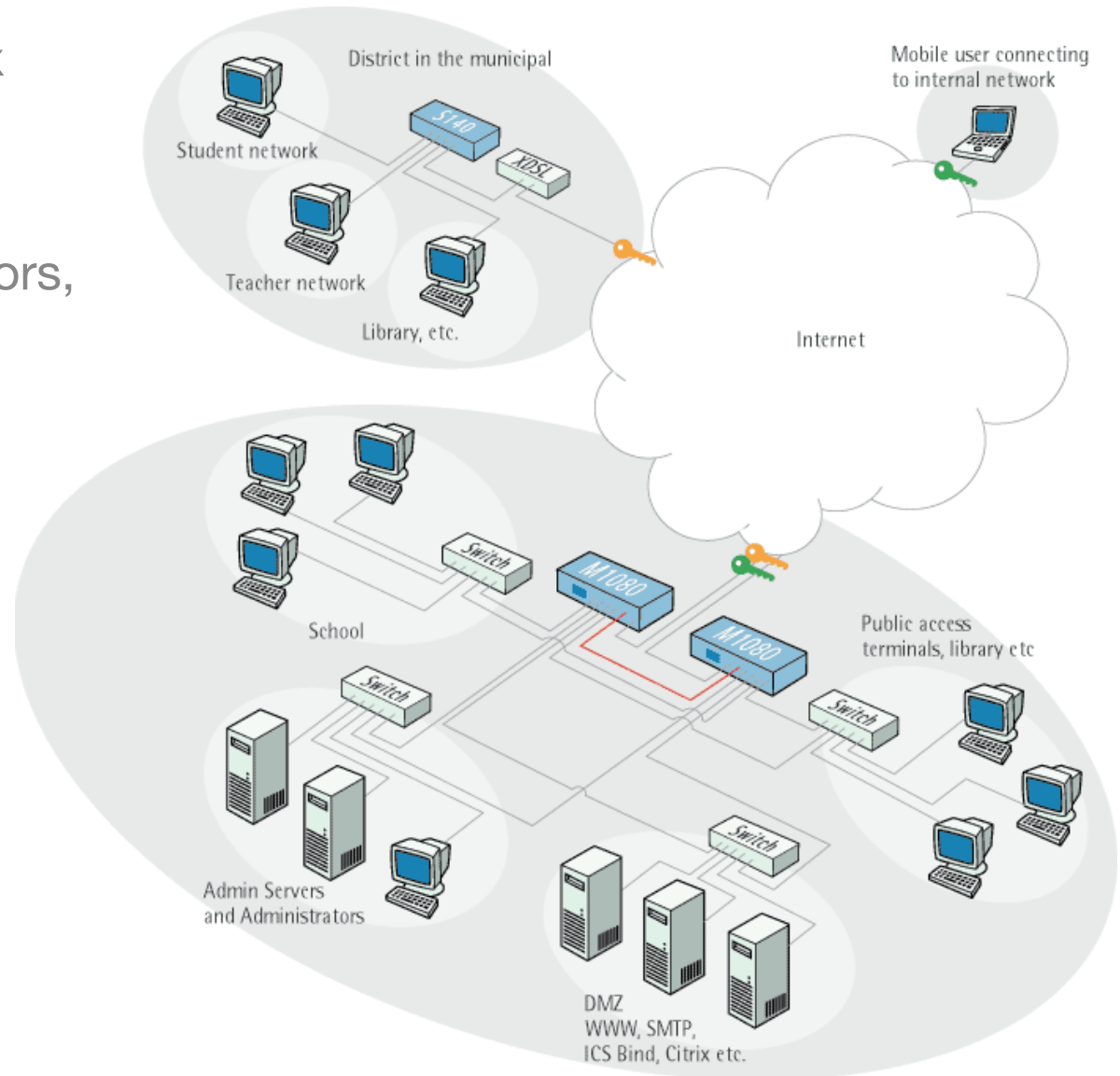
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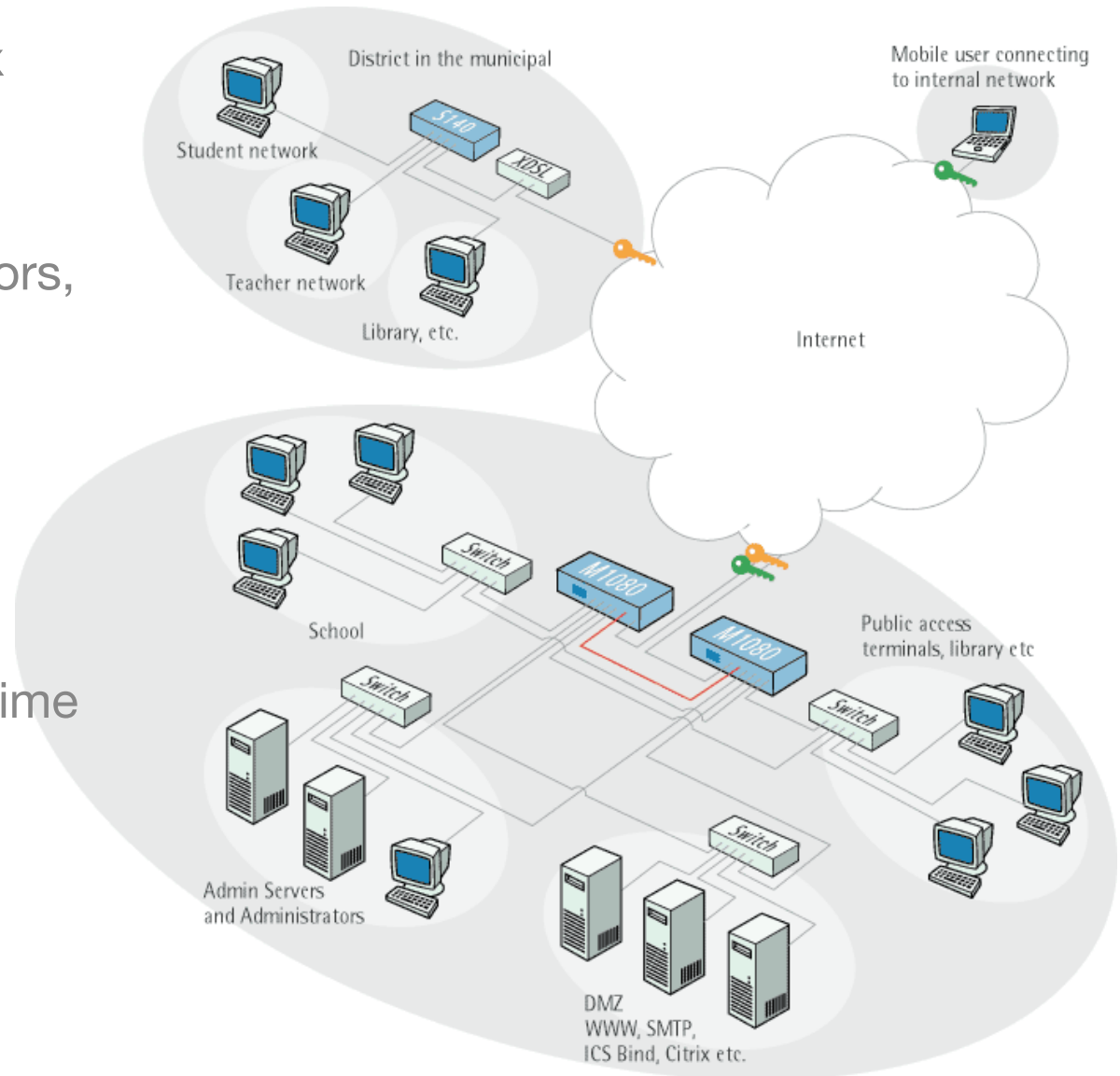
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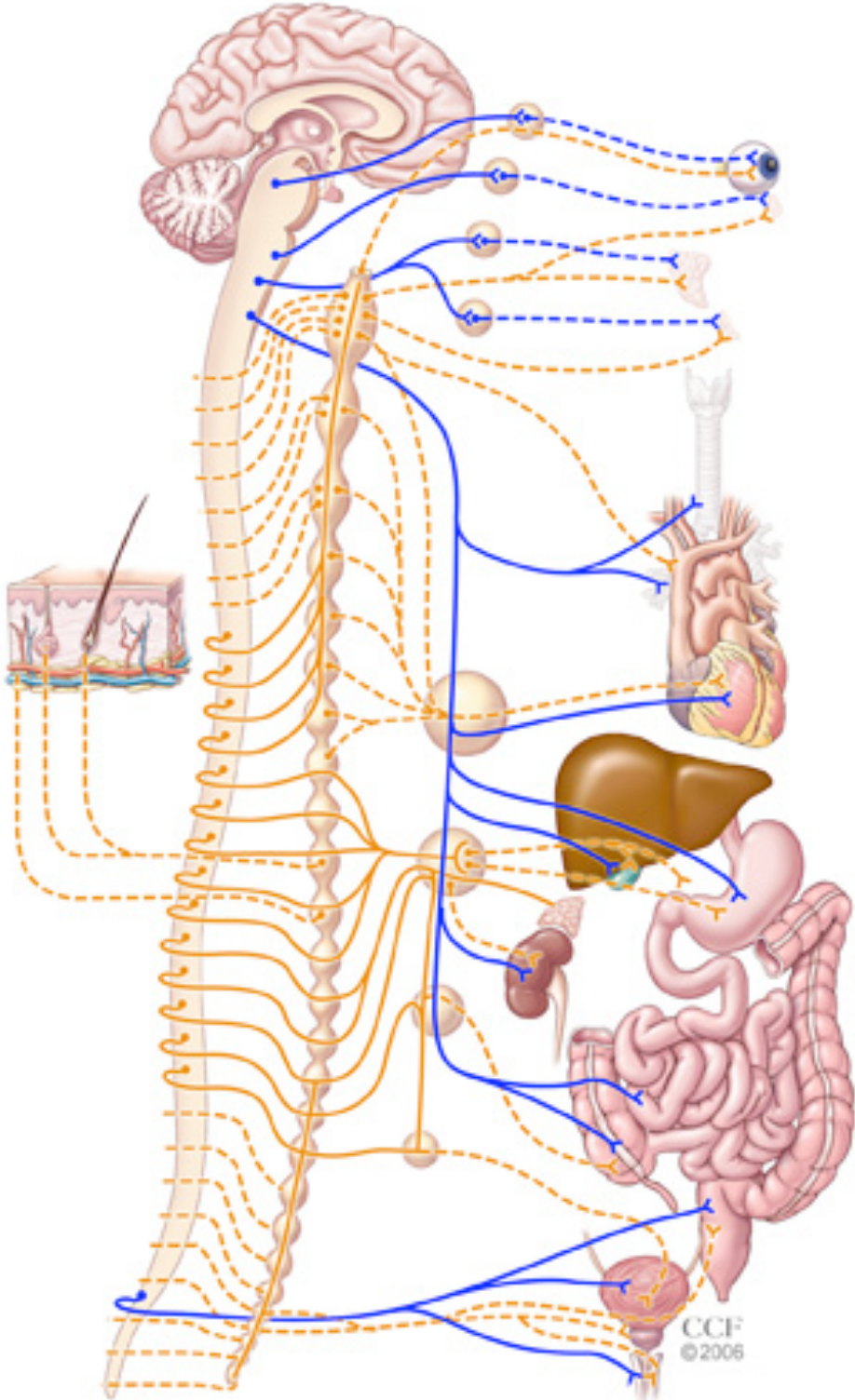
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- Unanticipated interactions
- Runtime monitoring and diagnosis (e.g., 99.999% uptime requirements)





# The Autonomic Vision

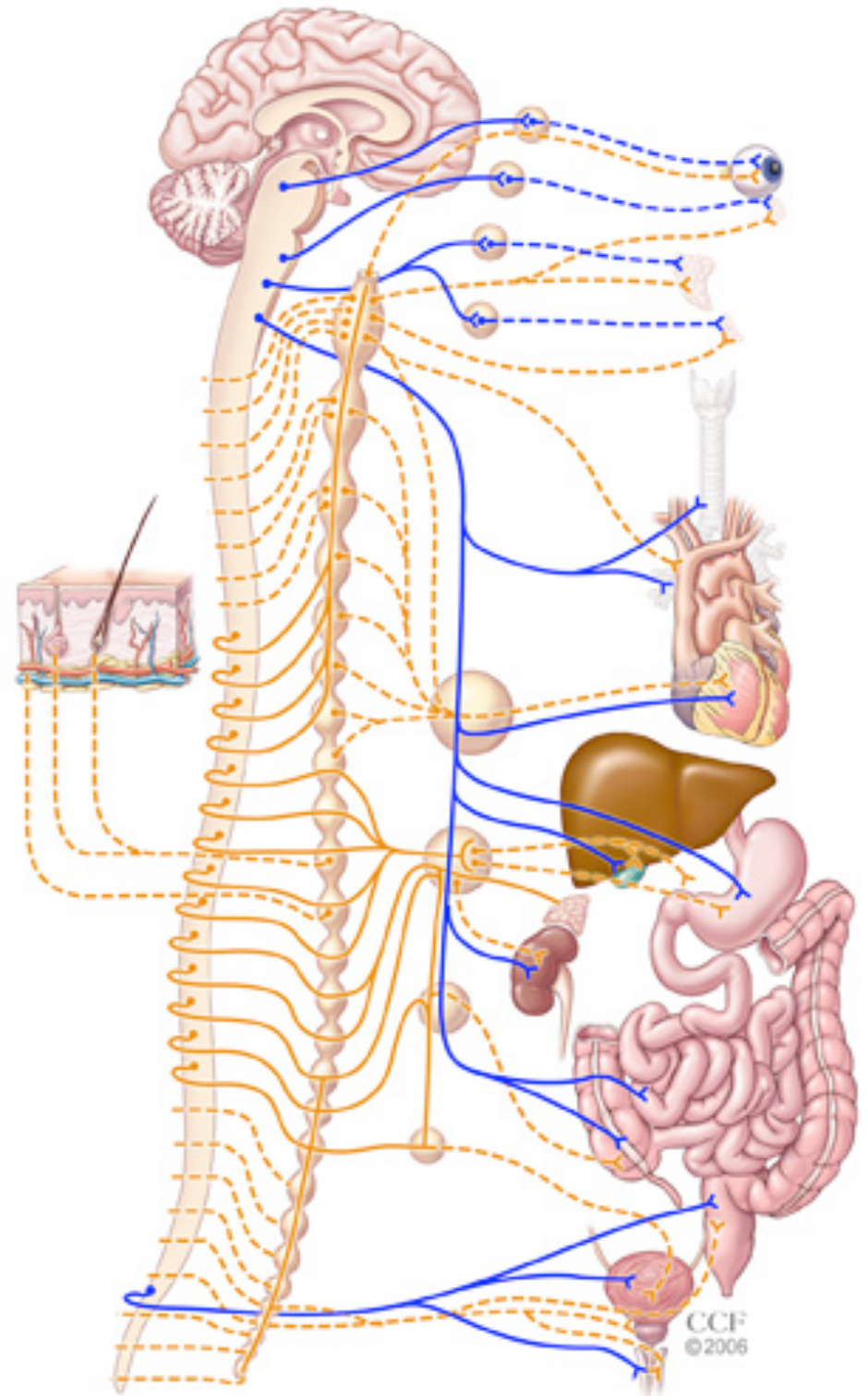
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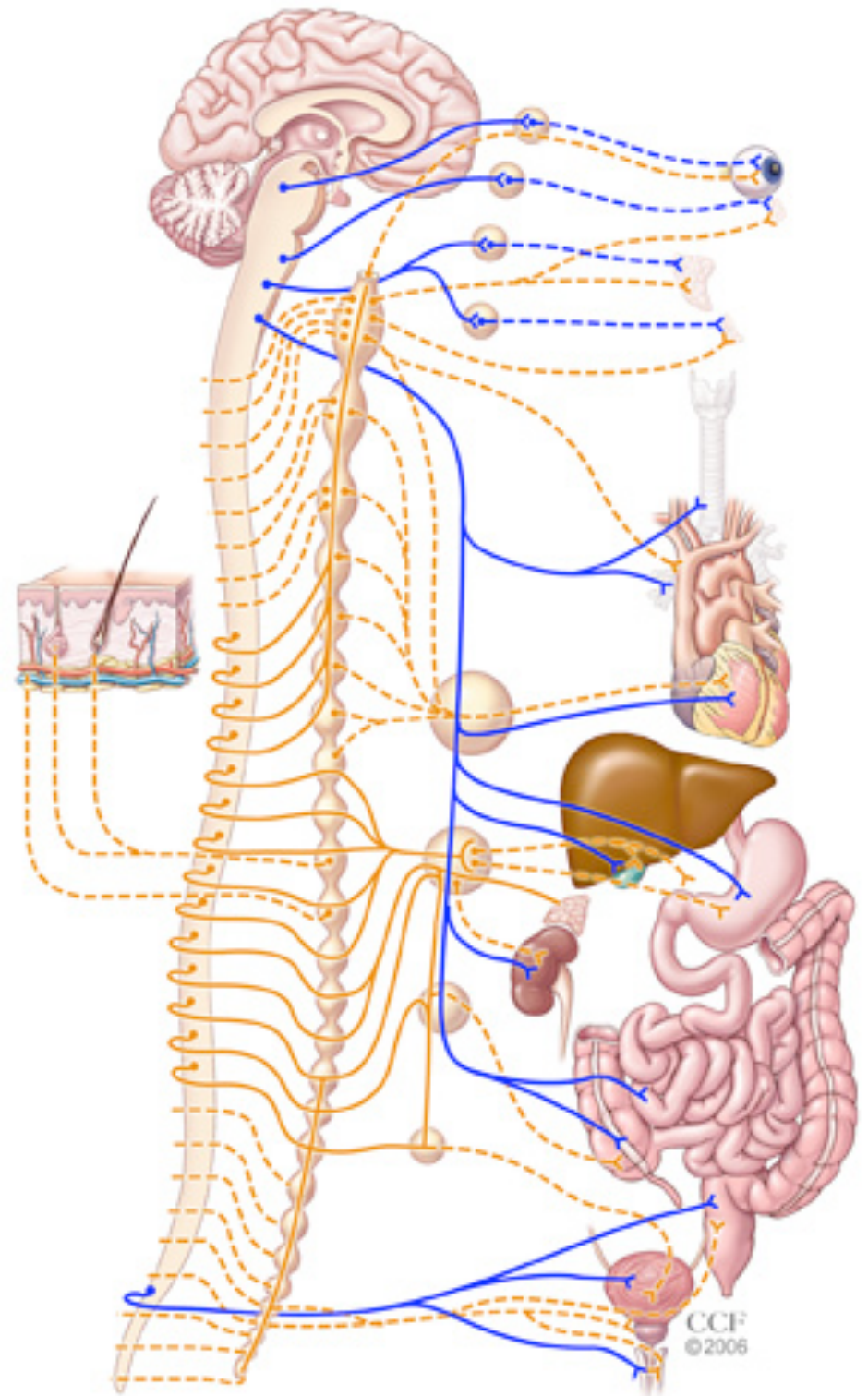
- Self-configuration



# The Autonomic Vision

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- Self-configuration
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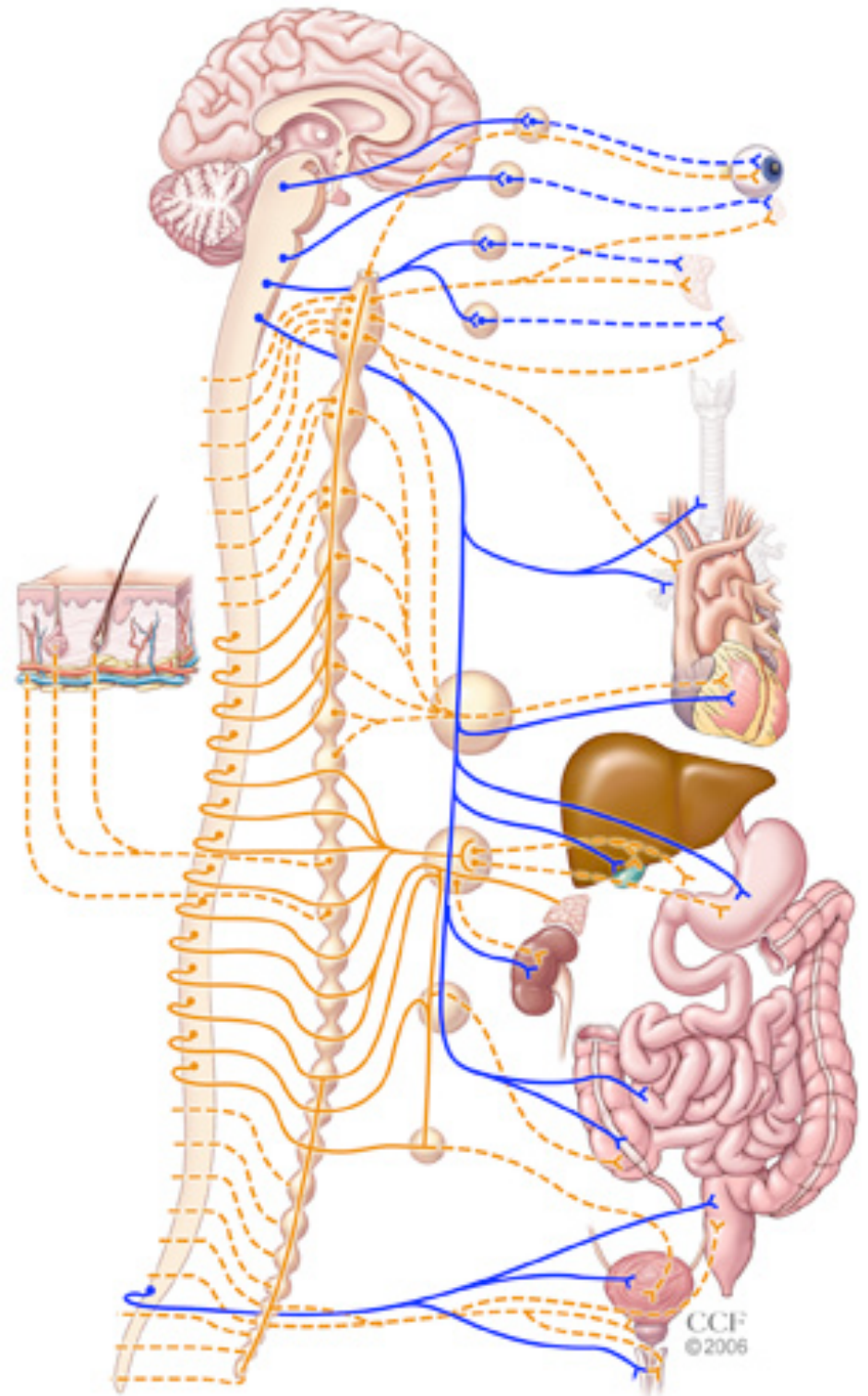




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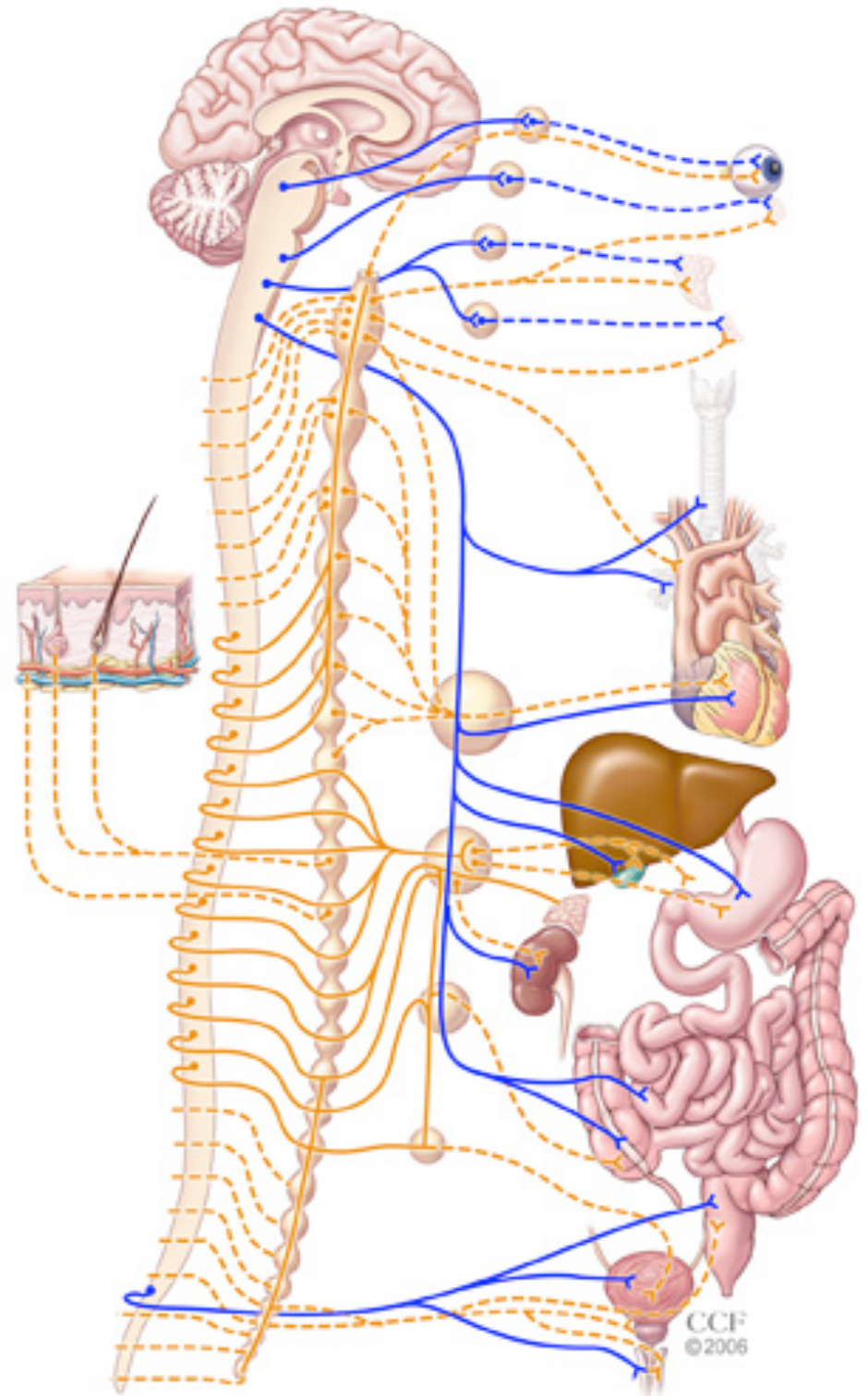
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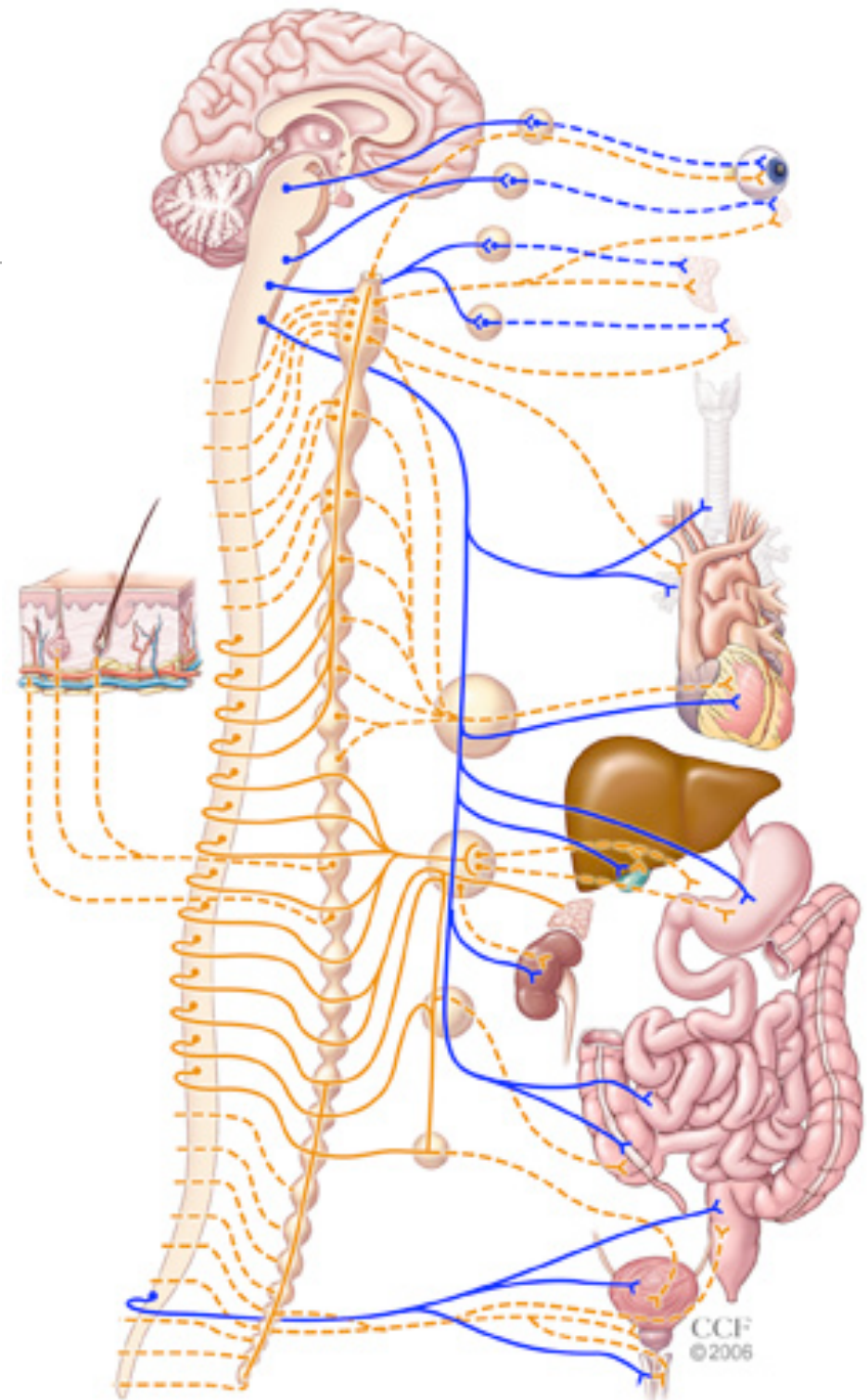
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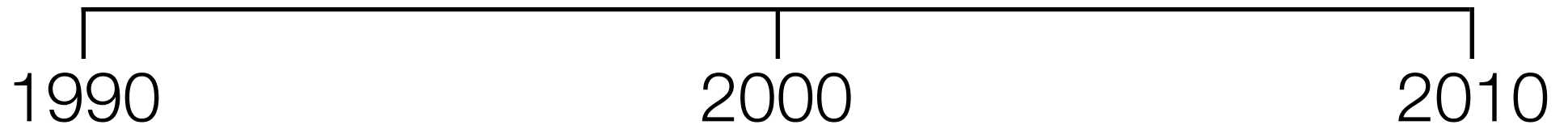
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- Self-configuration
- Self-optimization
- Self-healing
- Self-protection
- Requires “Self-” awareness!



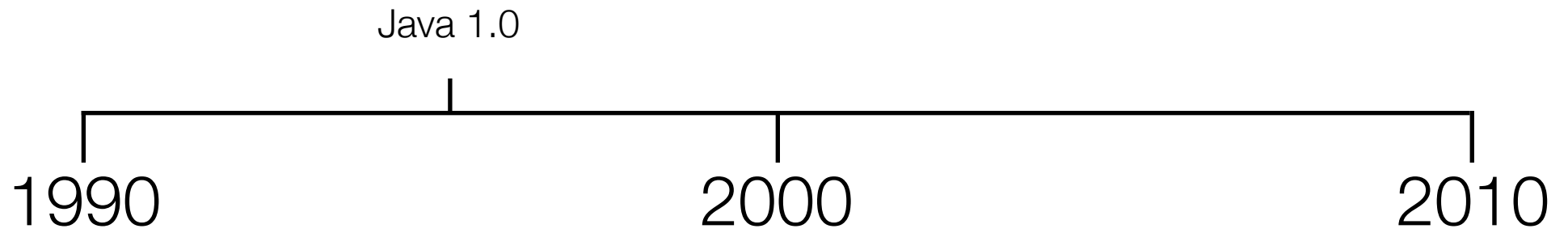
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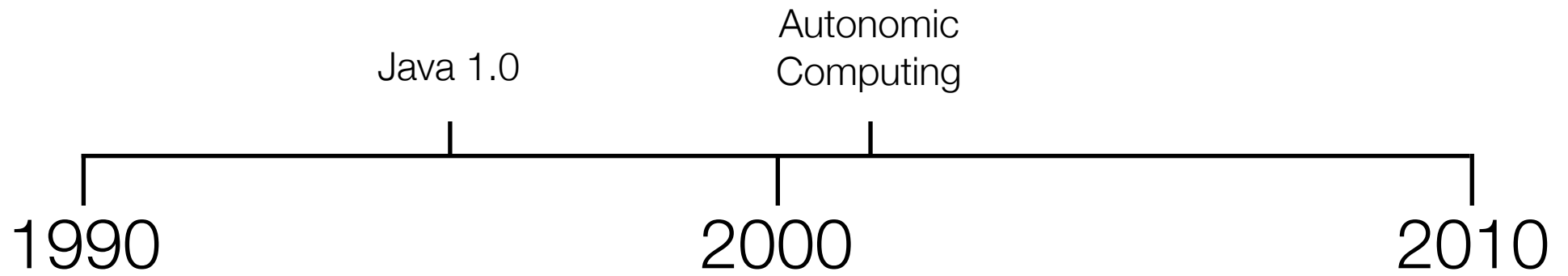
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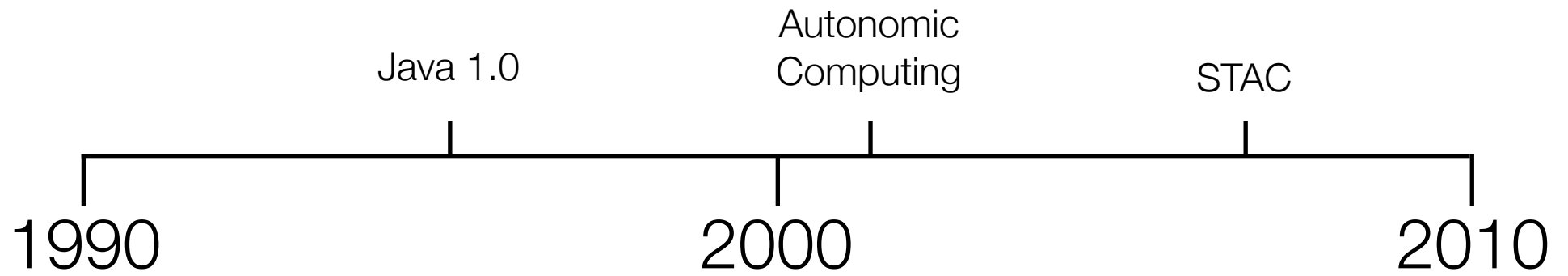
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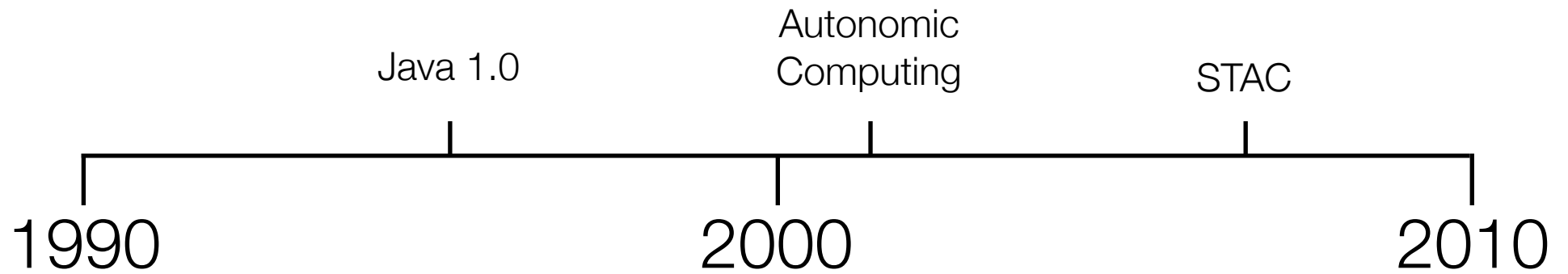
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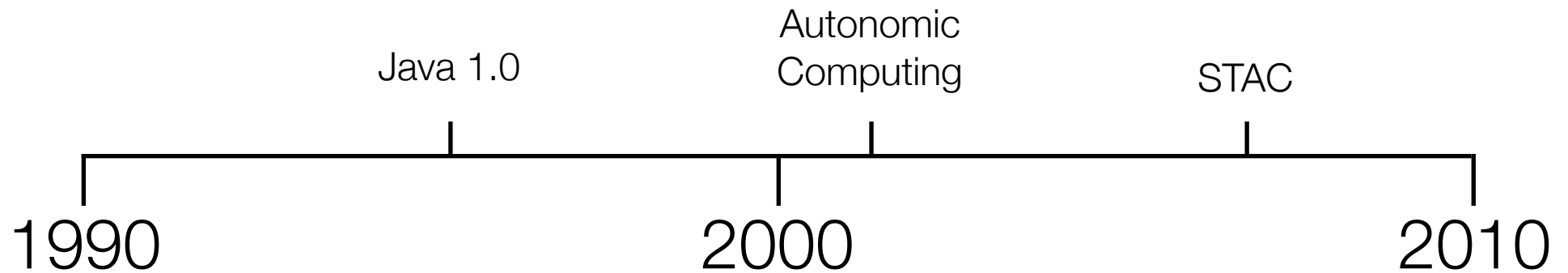
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- 400 features in 36 distinct IBM products have autonomic computing capabilities [7]

# New Thinking, Old Problem!

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- 400 features in 36 distinct IBM products have autonomic computing capabilities [7]
- Design vs. evolution for an autonomic future

# Challenges for Software Evolution

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# STAC in a Nutshell

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- Tuning parameters are observed and controlled from a common control panel

**Tuning Parameter:** A scalar field, or scalar property of a structured field, explicitly declared in source code that is used to observe or influence the behaviour of a system in terms of metrics like performance or security.

# The STAC Pipeline: Past, Present and Future

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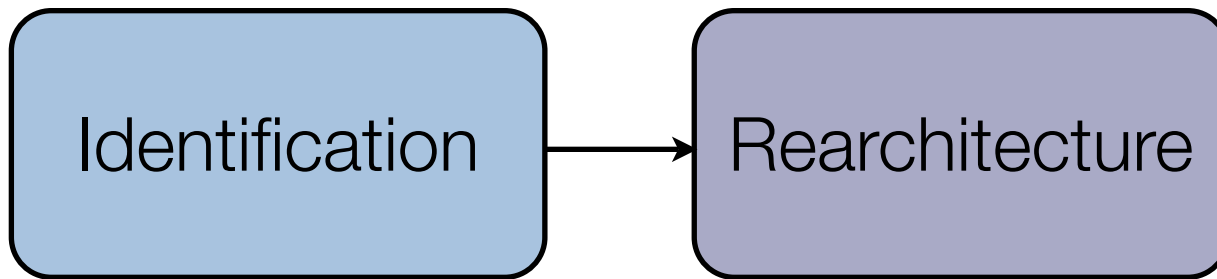
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Rearchitecture

# The STAC Pipeline: Past, Present and Future

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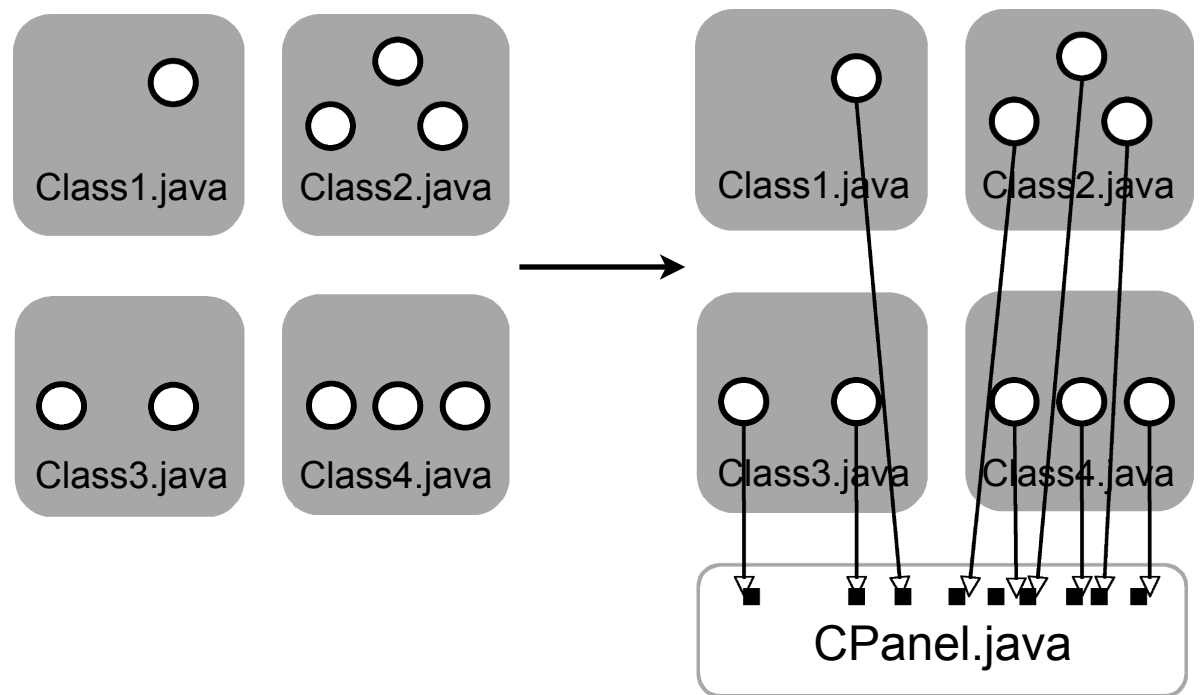
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# Rearchitecture using TXL (Past)

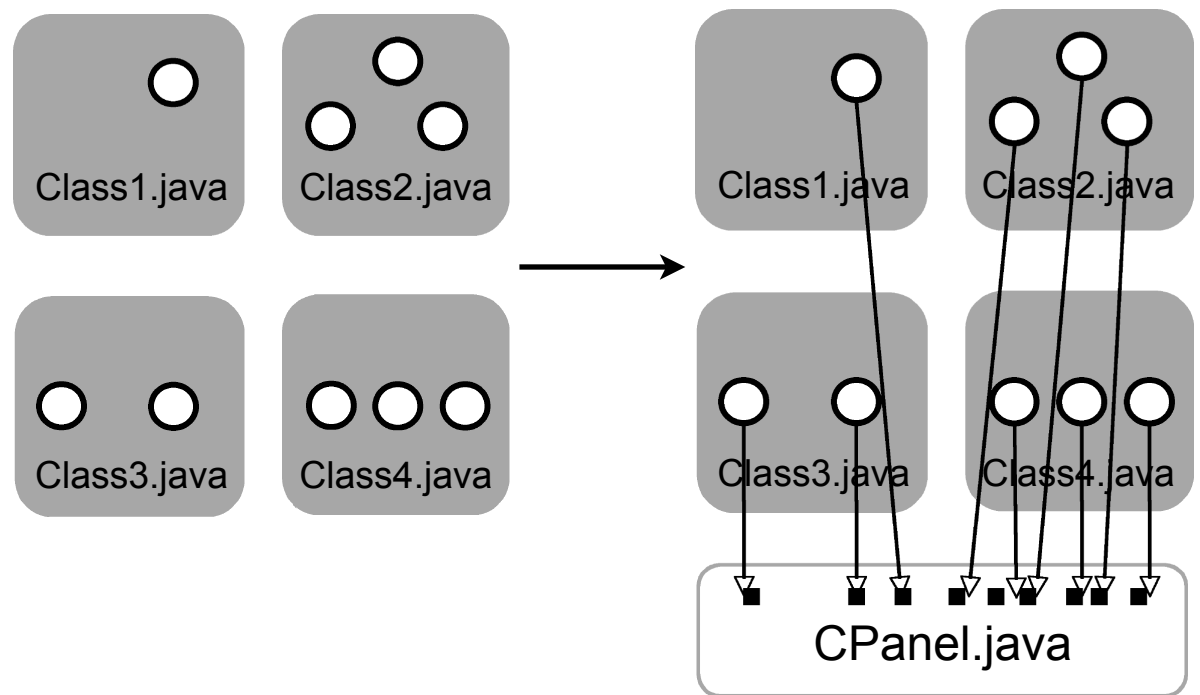
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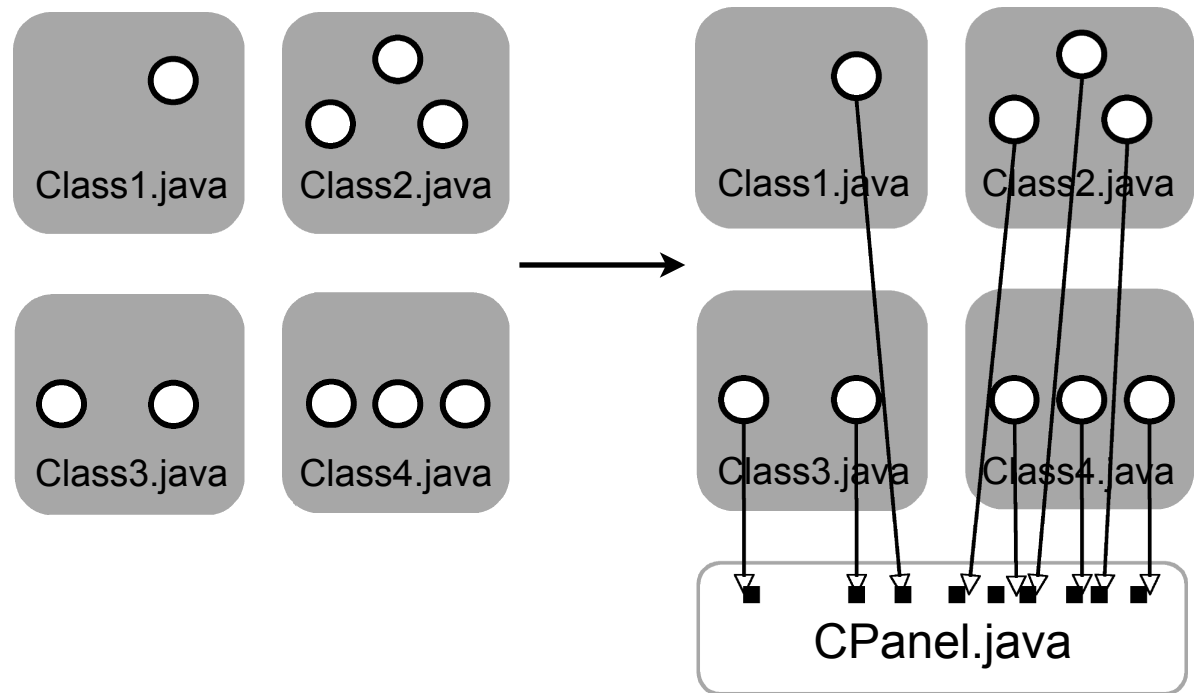
- Markup declarations with XML



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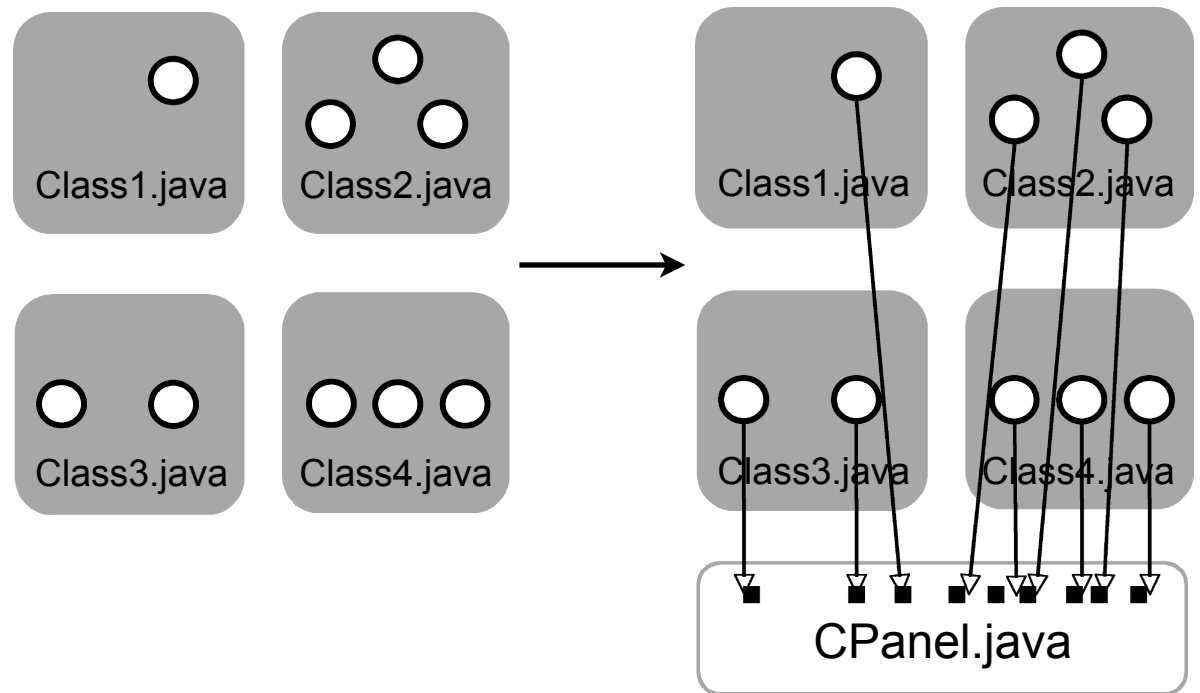
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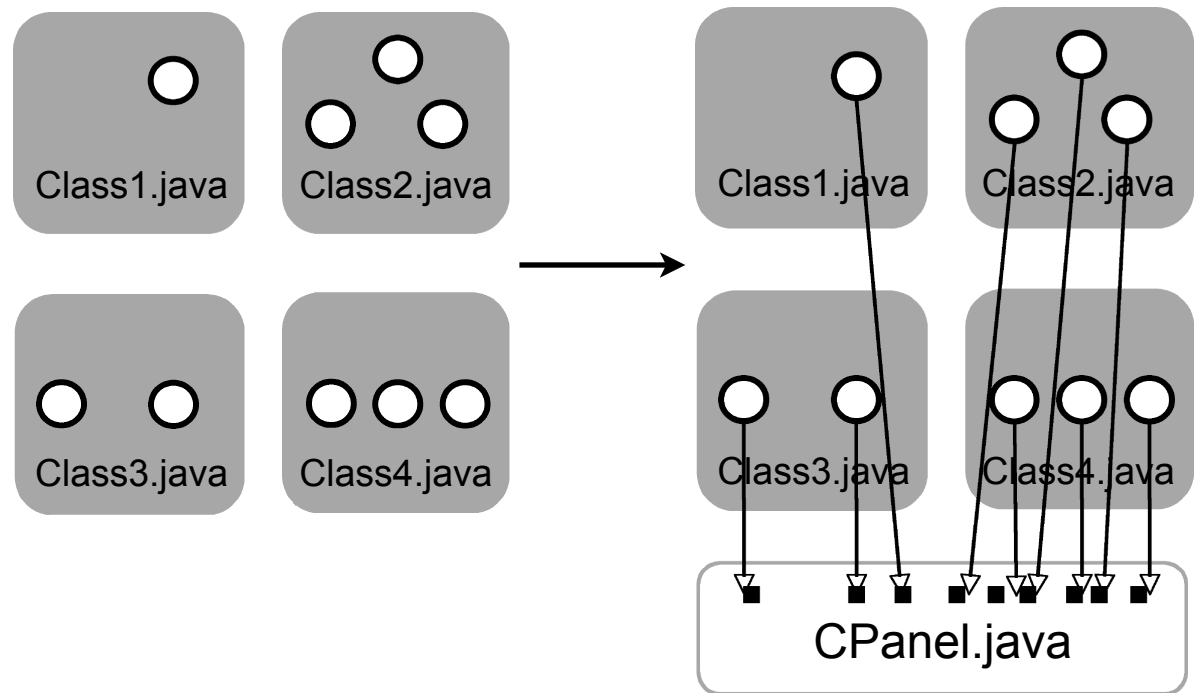
- Markup declarations with XML
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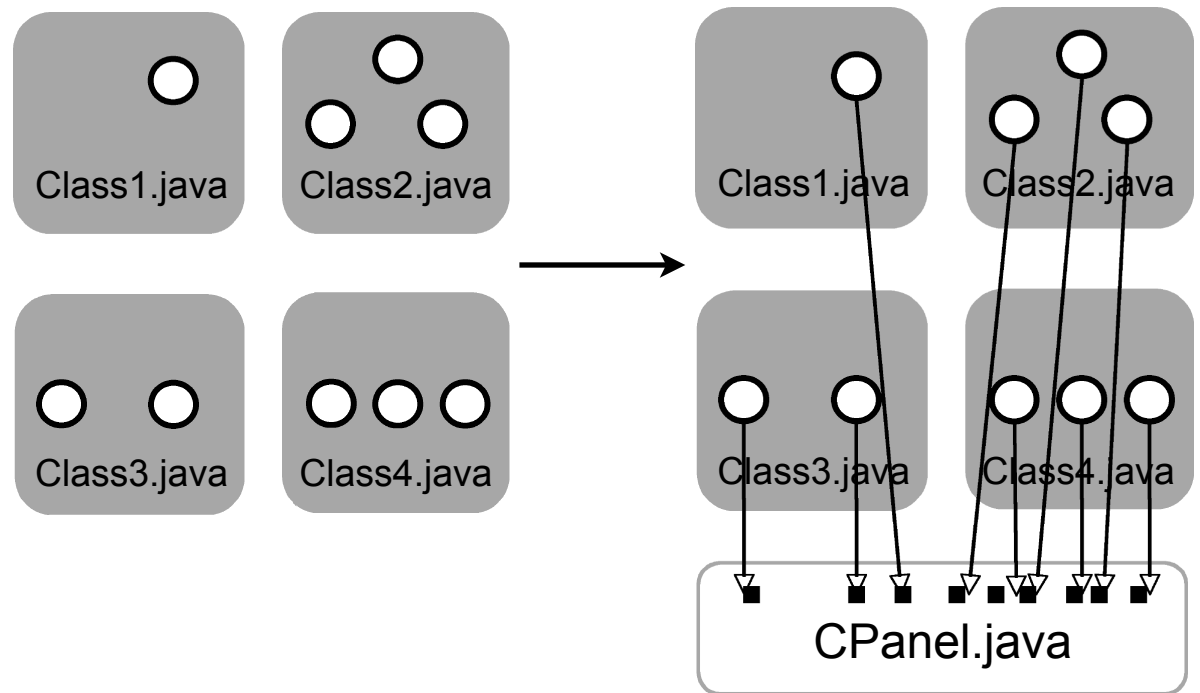
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- Synthesize control panel



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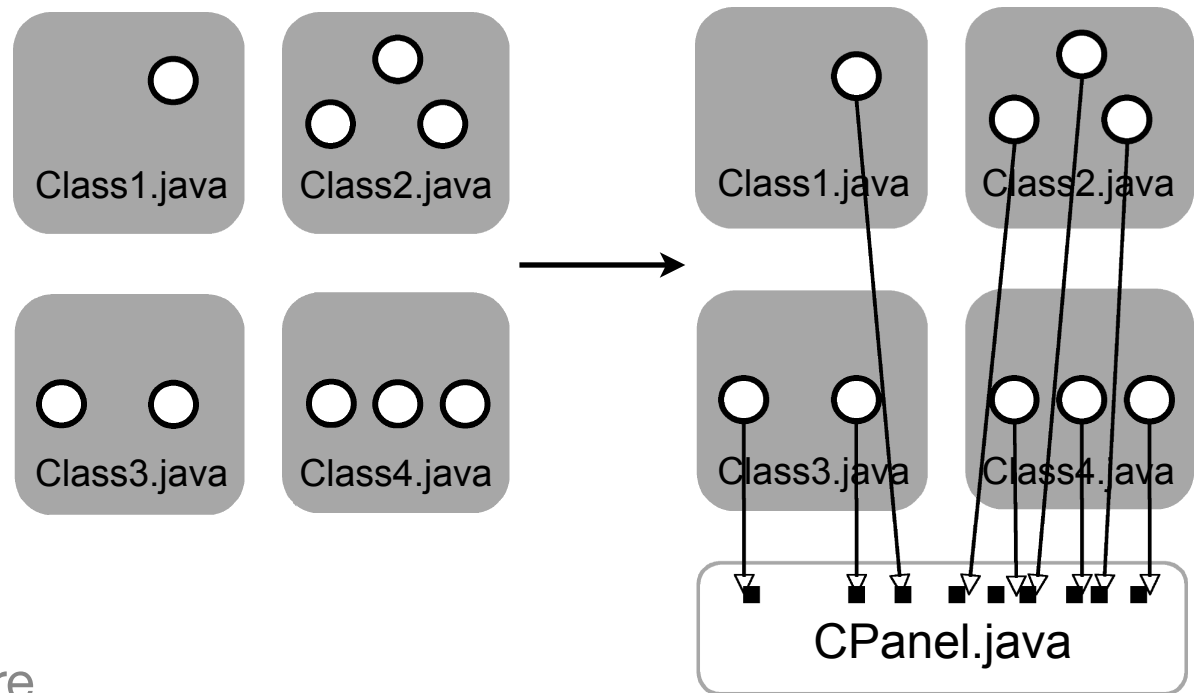
- Markup declarations with XML
- Normalize source files
- Trace references
- Synthesize control panel
- Redirect references



# Rearchitecture using TXL (Past)

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- Markup declarations with XML
- Normalize source files
- Trace references
- Synthesize control panel
- Redirect references
- Reconstitute original structure





# Example: A Simple Server (Before)

---

```
public class Server {  
    ...  
    <control_param>  
    private int maxConnections = 100;  
    </control_param>  
    ...  
  
    public boolean accept() {  
        if (numConnections < maxConnections) {  
            ...  
        }  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

# Example: A Simple Server (After)

---

```
public class Server {
    ...
    CPanel.maxConnections.set(100);
    ...

    public boolean accept() {
        if (numConnections <
            CPanel.maxConnections.get()) {
            ...
        }
        ...
    }
}
```

```
public class CPanel {
    public static class maxConnections {
        private static int value;

        public static int create() {
            return value;
        }

        public static int set(int value) {
            this.value = value;
            return value;
        }

        public static int get() {
            return value;
        }
    }
}
```

# Example: A Simple Server

---

Before	After
<pre data-bbox="138 707 851 866">&lt;control_param&gt; private int maxConnections = 100; &lt;/control_param&gt;</pre>	<pre data-bbox="1155 762 1857 810">CPanel.maxConnections.set(100);</pre>
<pre data-bbox="95 1145 910 1193">if (numConnections &lt; maxConnections)</pre>	<pre data-bbox="968 1145 2047 1193">if (numConnections &lt; CPanel.maxConnections.get())</pre>

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- Control panel exposes parameters to autonomic controllers

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- Generate WSDL specification for control panel to allow management via WSDM

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- Iteratively develop and refine a model for pattern analysis
- Extract relevant facts and infer new ones (i.e., create a directed graph and manipulate edges using relational algebra)
- Match patterns (i.e., query graph for instances of patterns)

# A Survey of Tuning Parameters

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- Studied four open-source, server-oriented applications written in Java:
  - Apache Tomcat (Web)
  - Apache Derby (Database)
  - Jetty (Web)
  - Oracle Berkeley DB Java Edition (Database)

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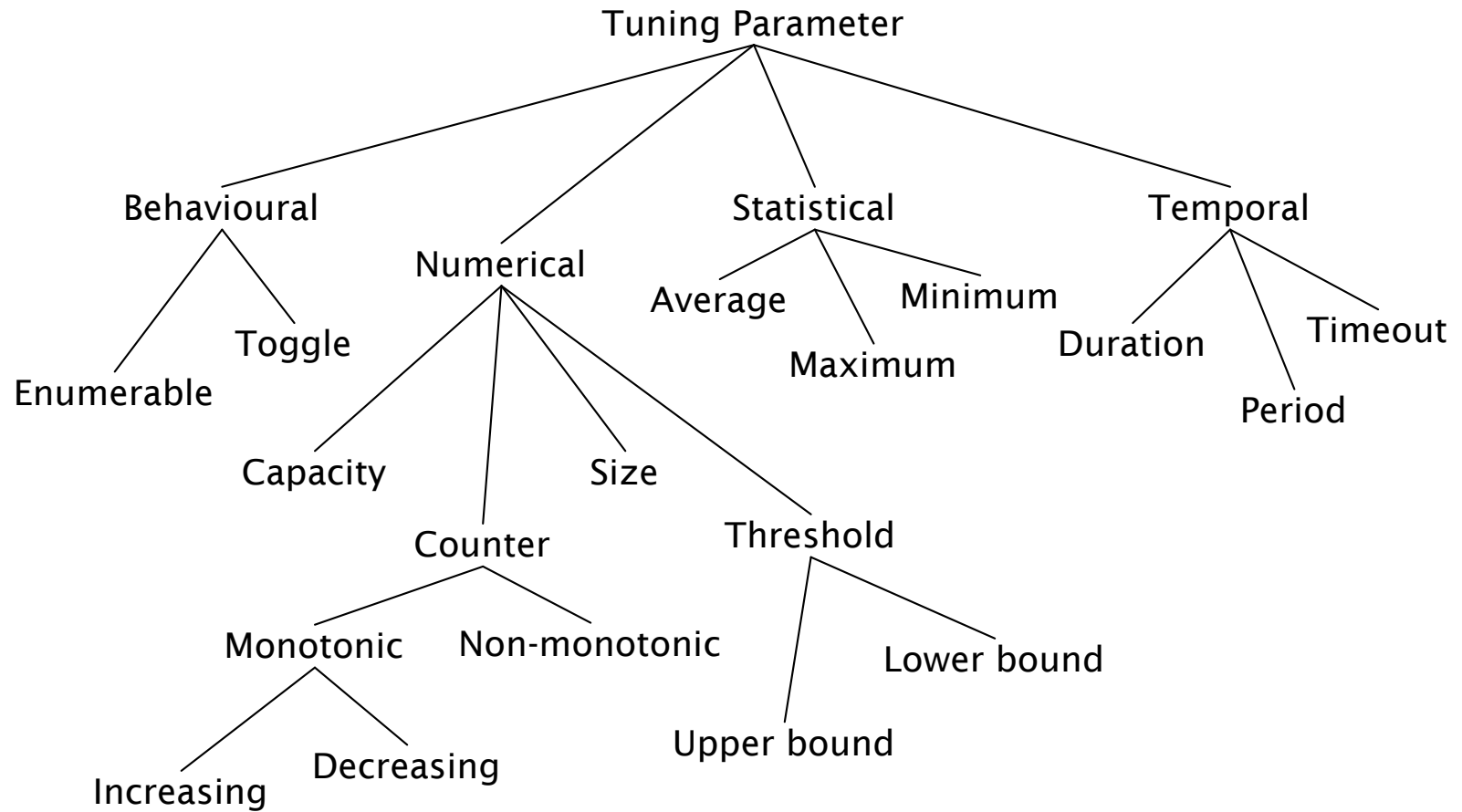
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- Catalogued the documented tuning parameters from manuals, JavaDoc, and JMX beans
- Traced source code references and classified them according to patterns of use

# Patterns of Use: A Taxonomy

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# Background: Eclipse JDT

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# Background: Eclipse JDT

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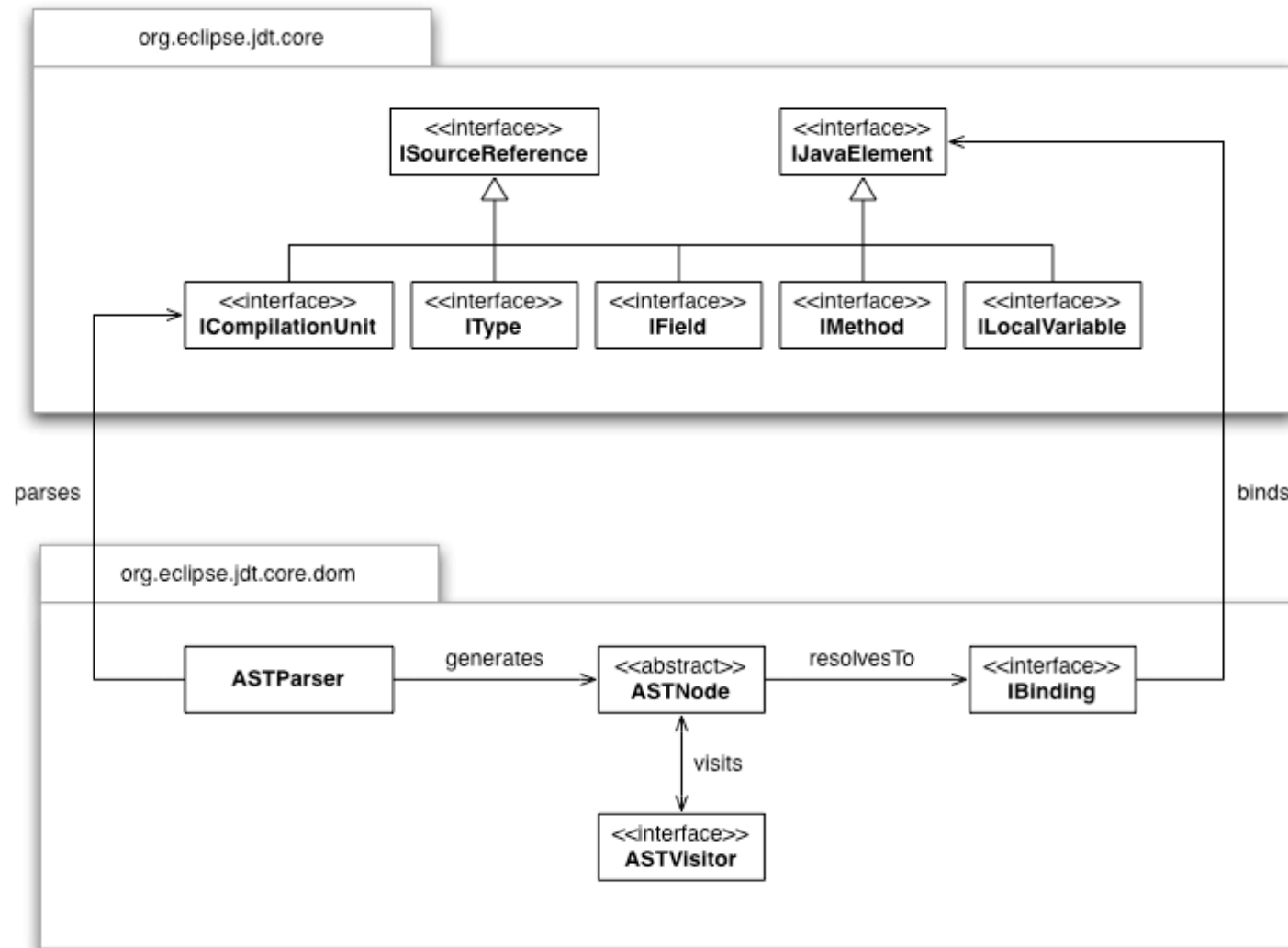
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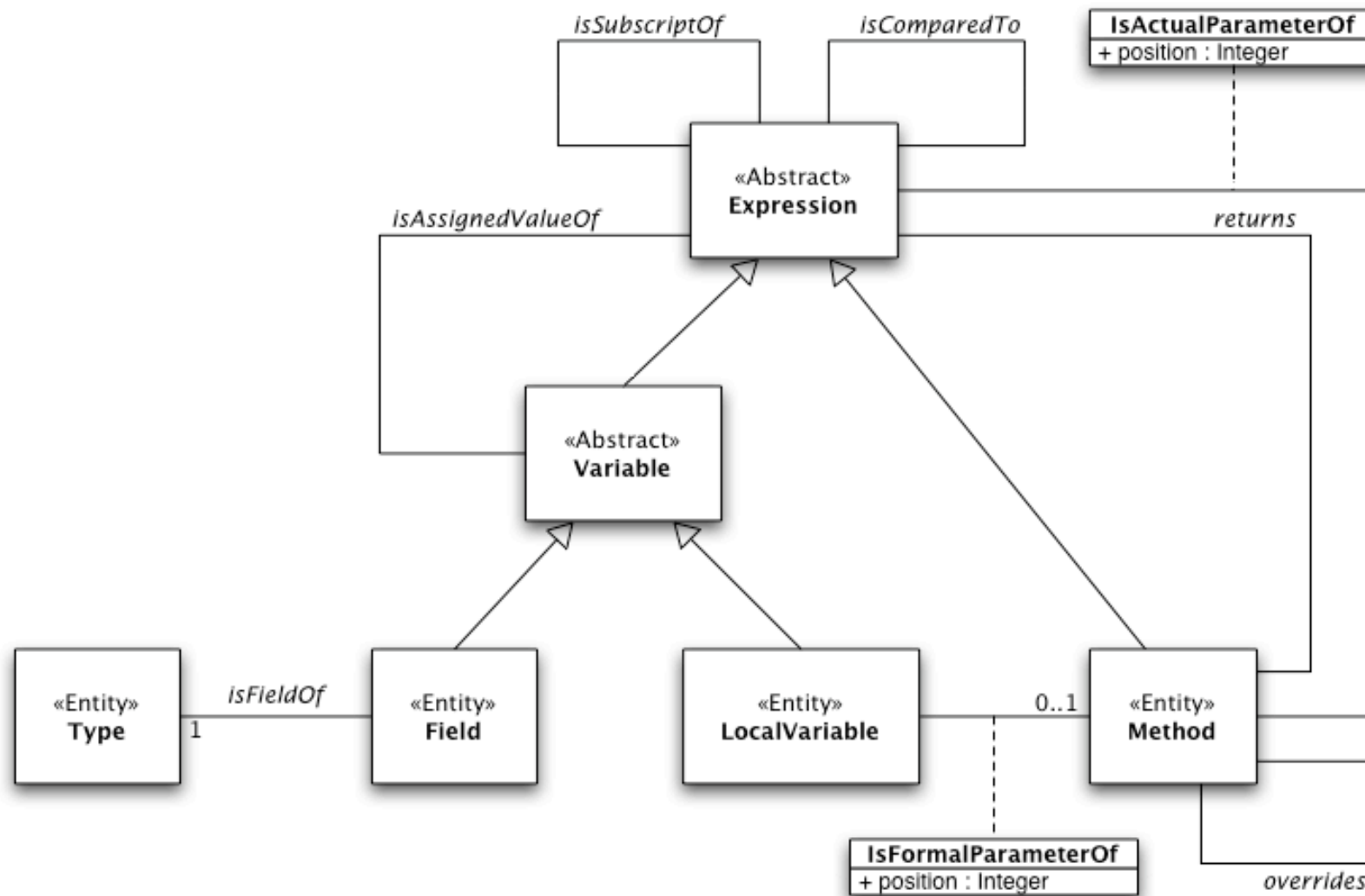
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- Eclipse provides a Java parser and in-memory program model with its Java Development Tools (JDT)
- Parser generates an abstract syntax tree for a compilation unit (e.g., statements, expressions, declarations)
- Program model provides traceability from program model elements to actual source positions (e.g., types, fields, methods, local variables)

# Background: Eclipse JDT



# An Entity-Relationship Model





# Fact Extraction and Inference

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(ManagerBase.sessionMaxAliveTime)

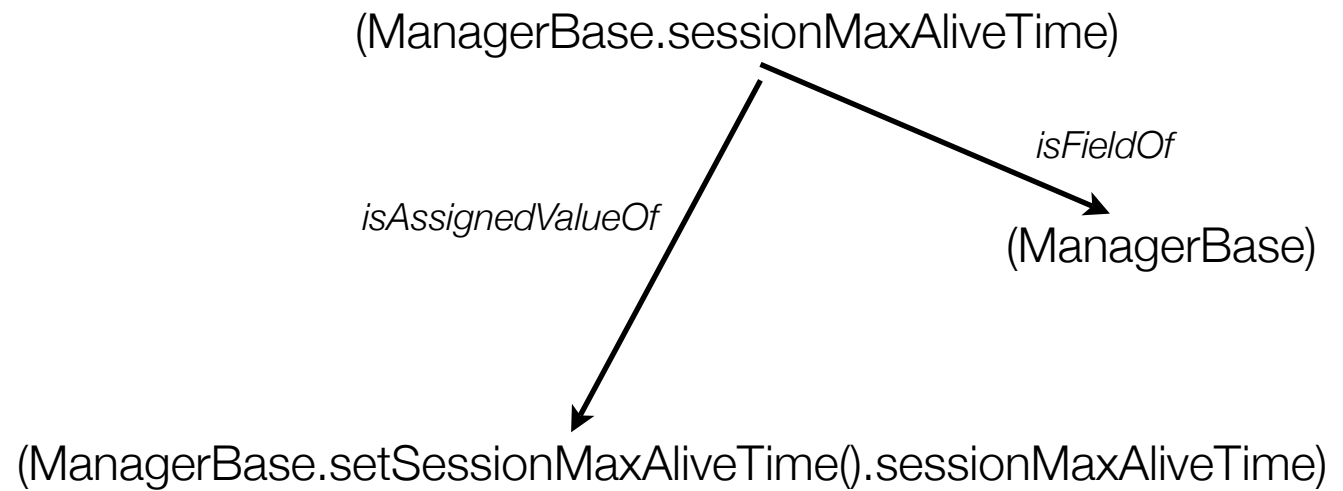
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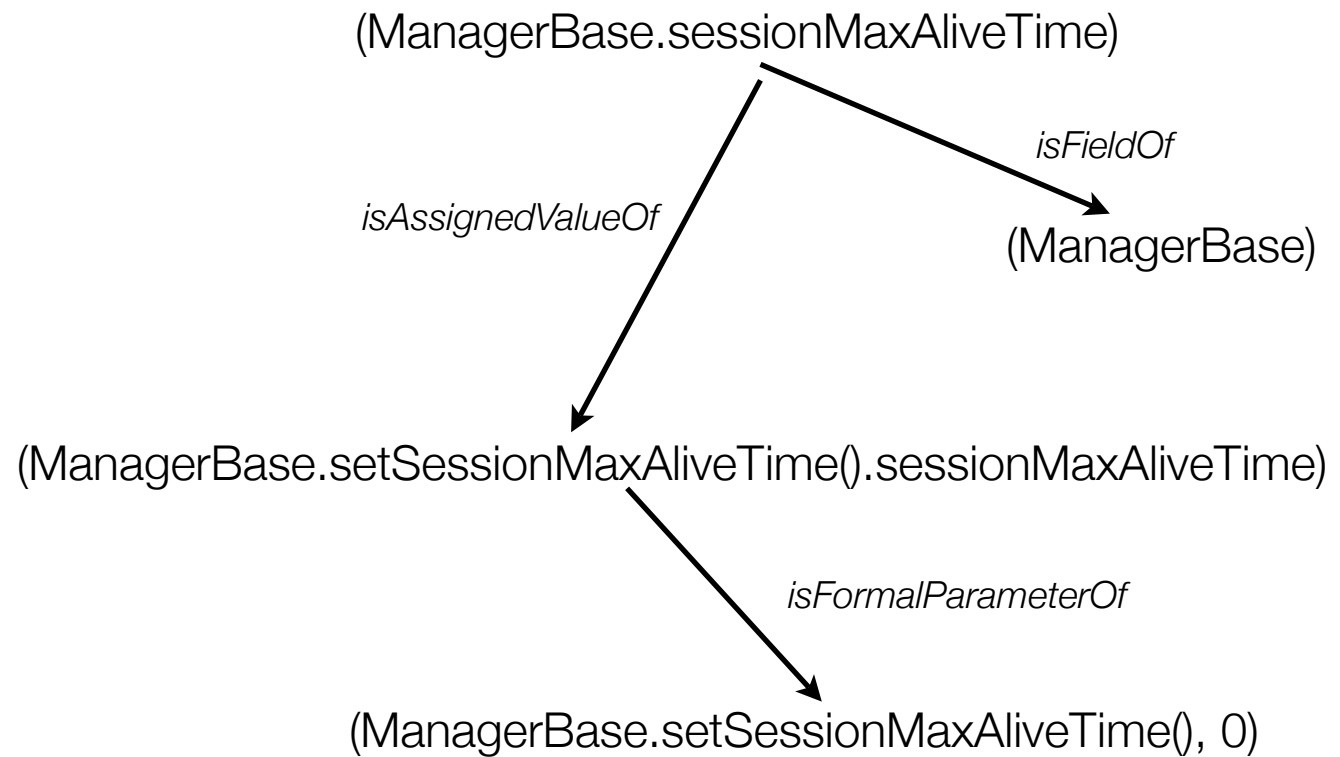
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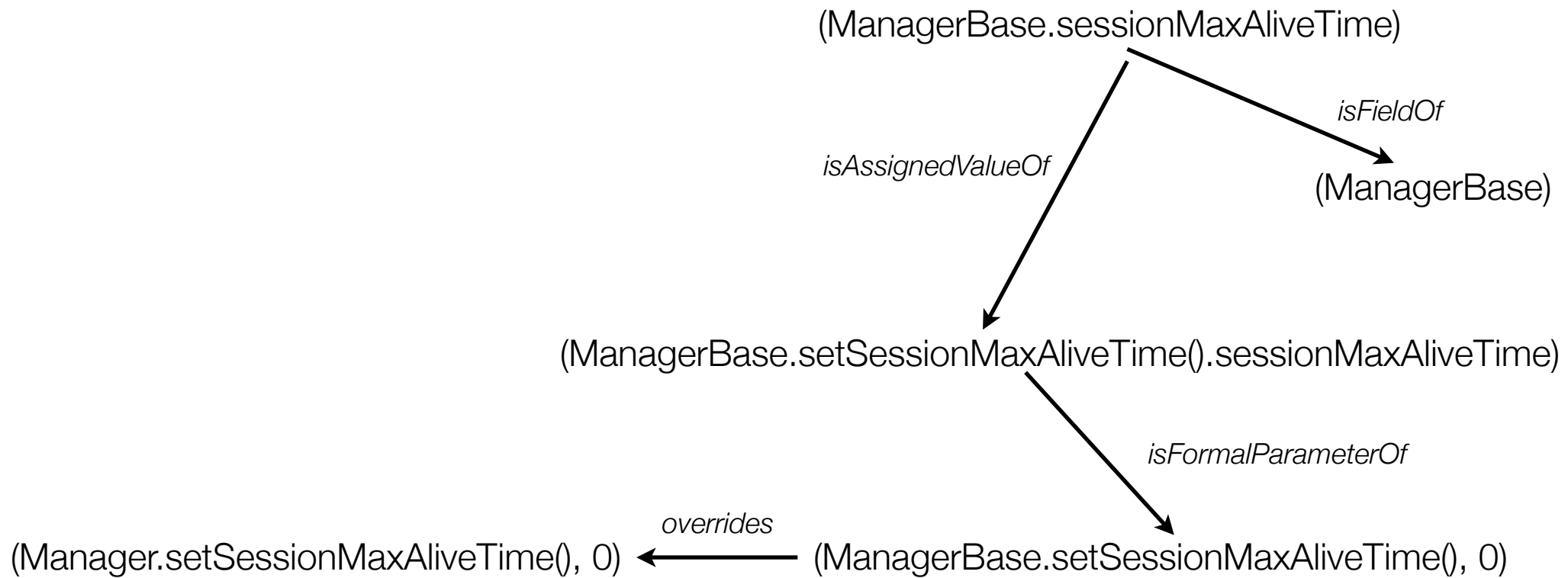
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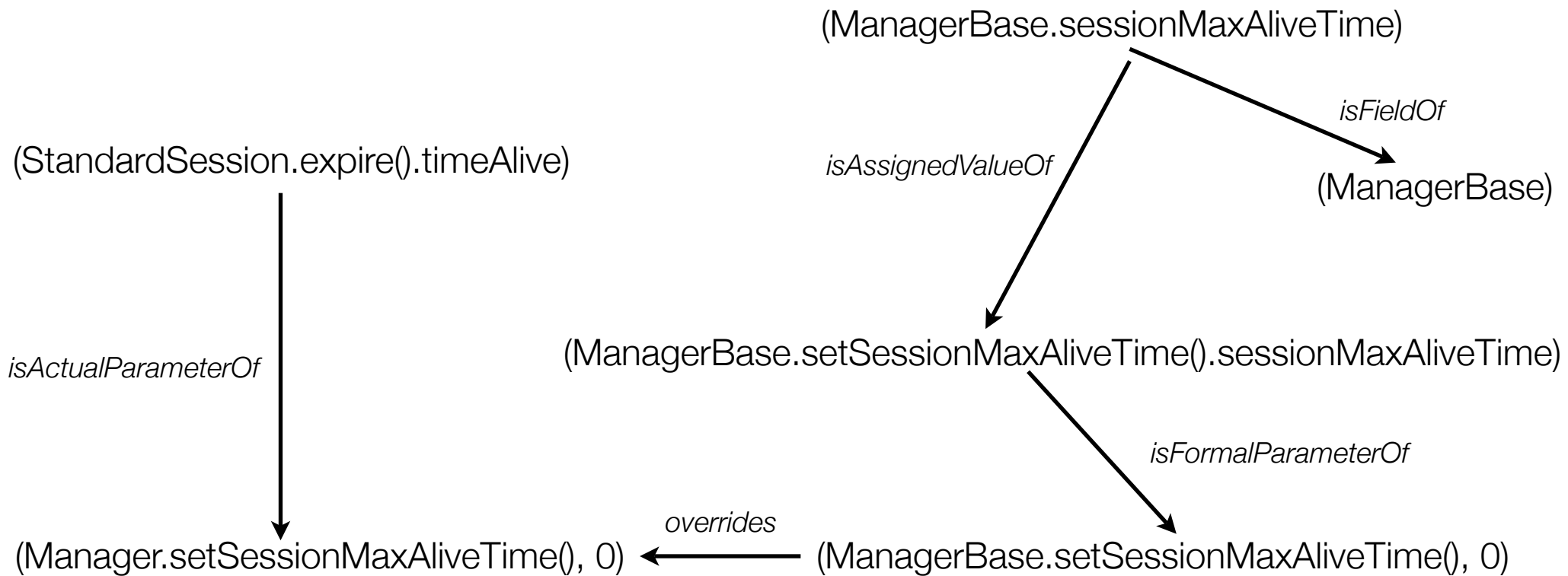
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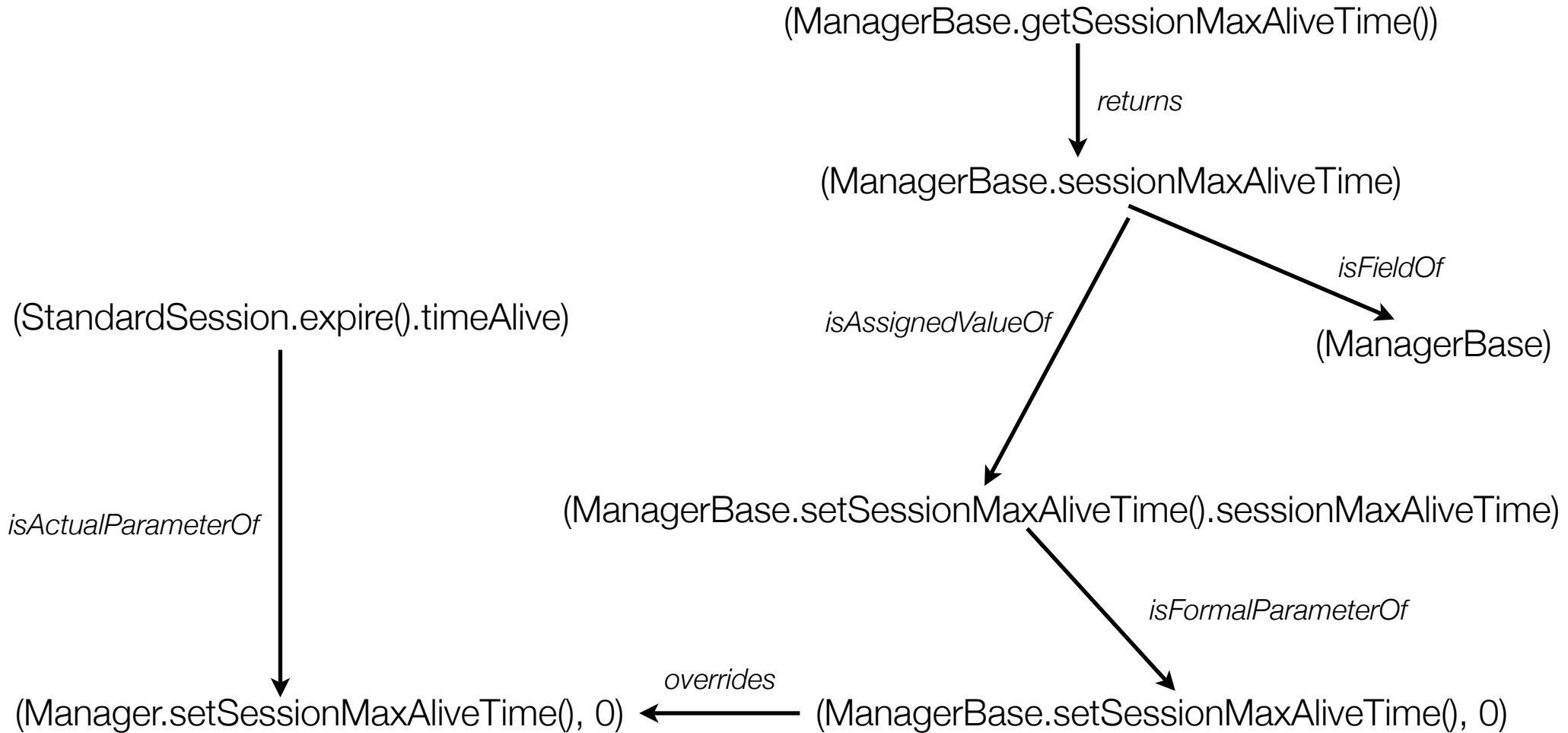
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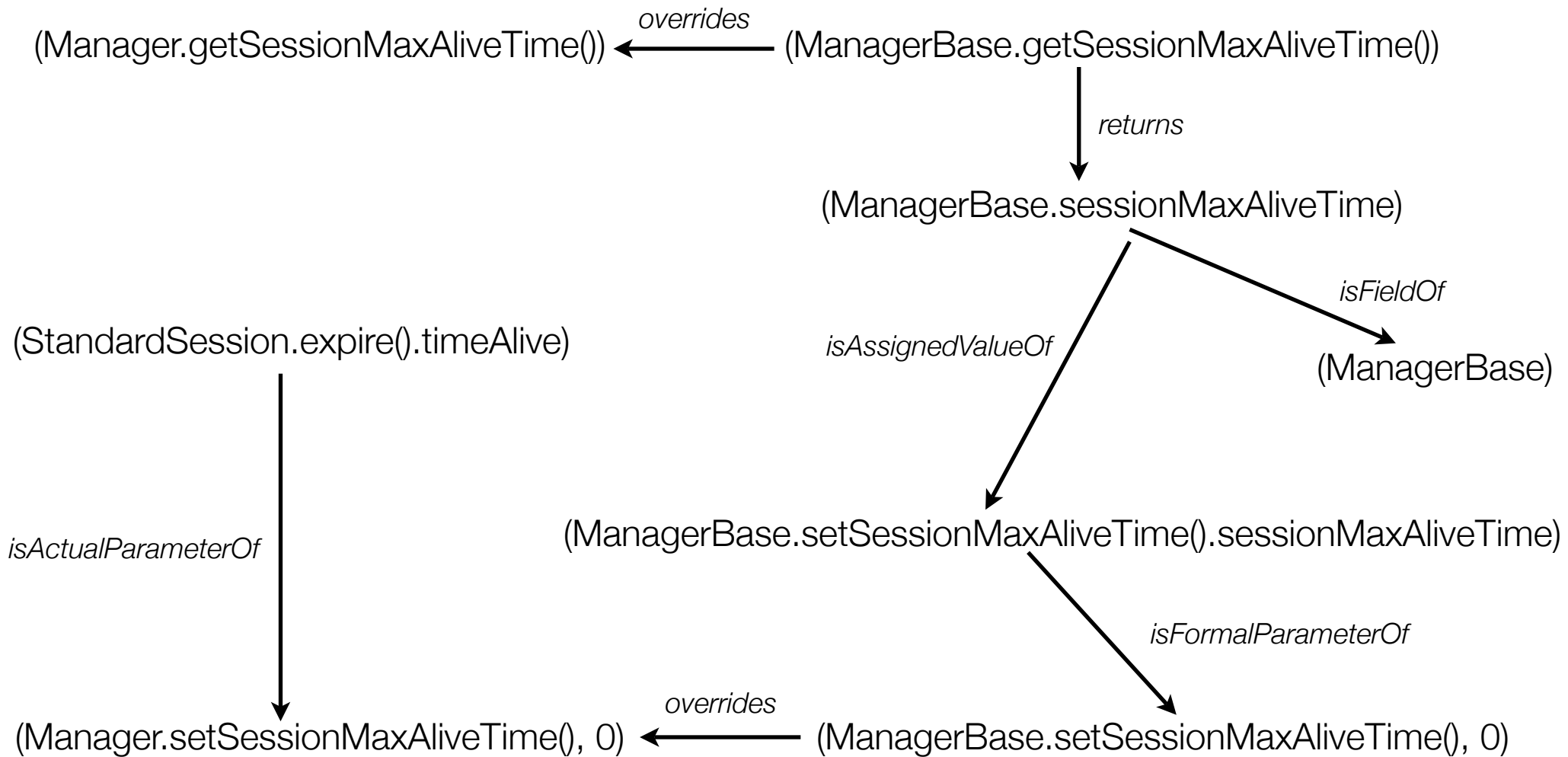
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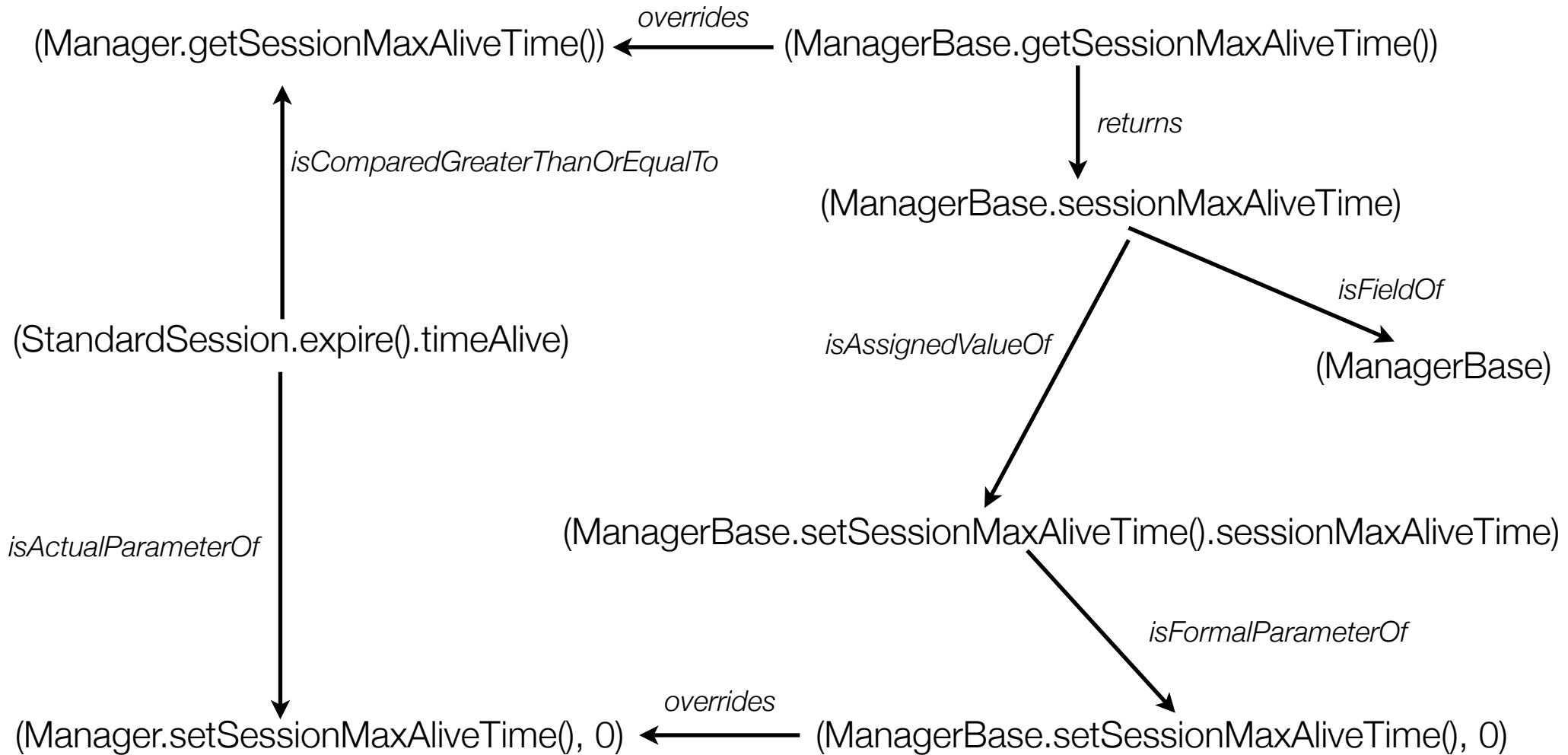
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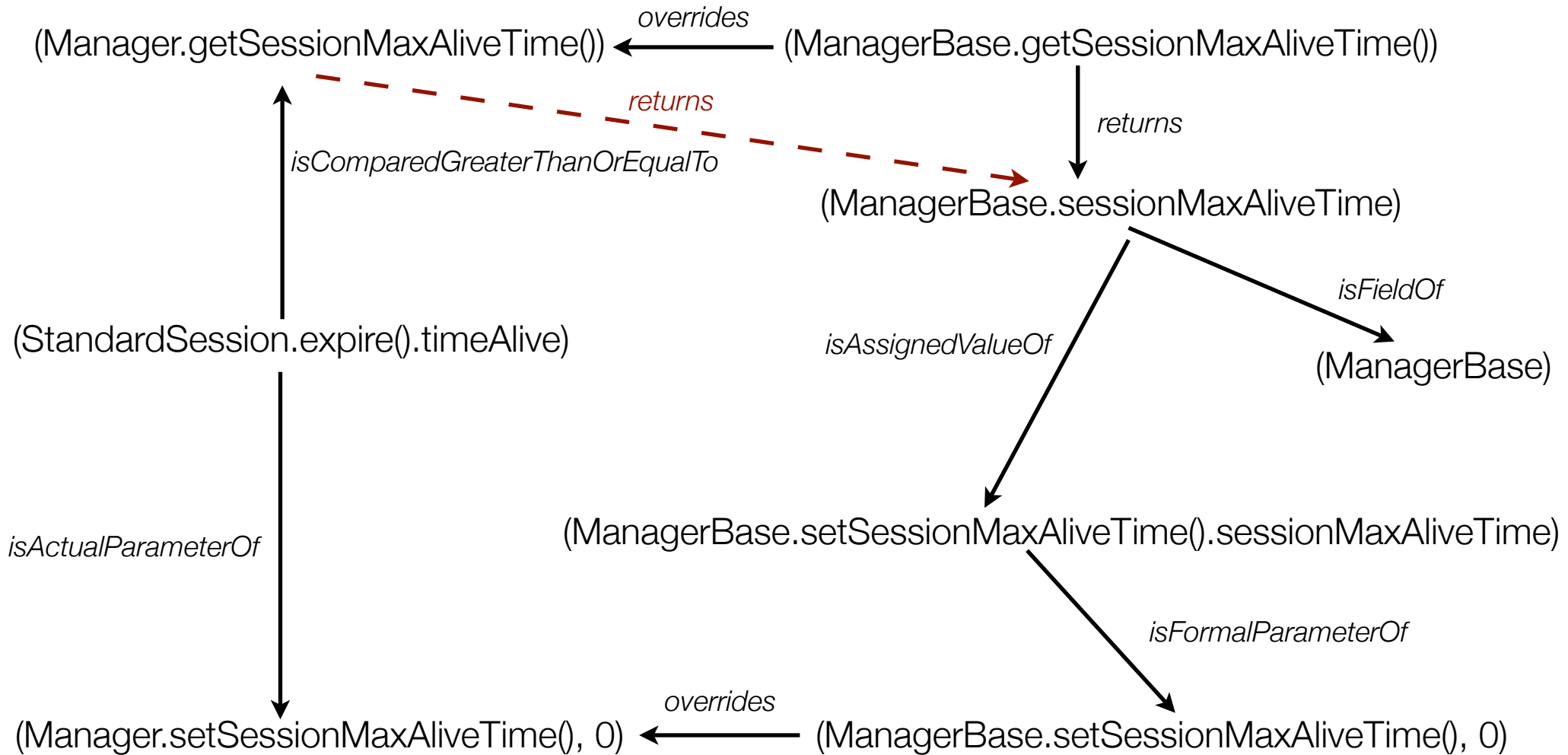
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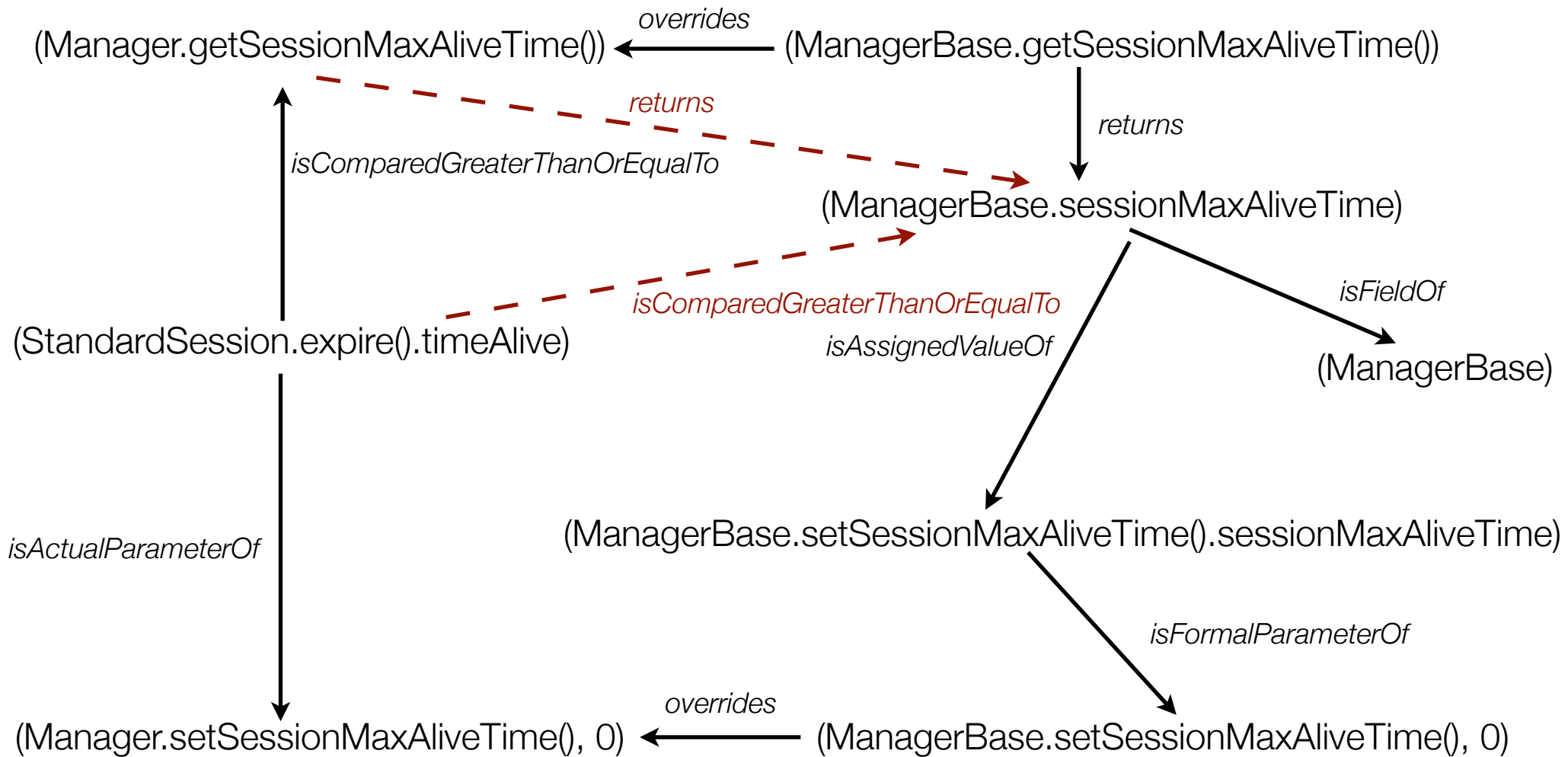


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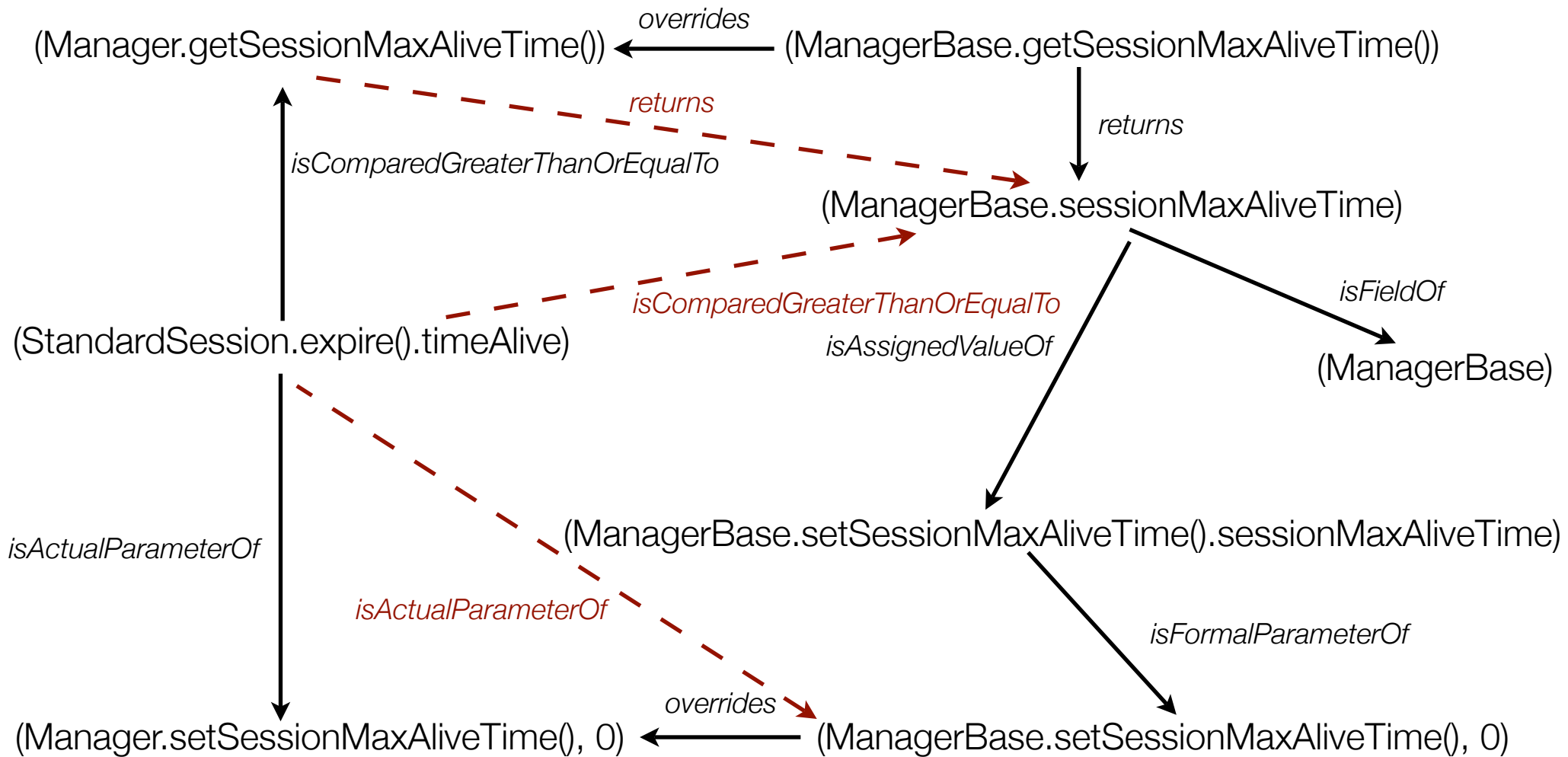
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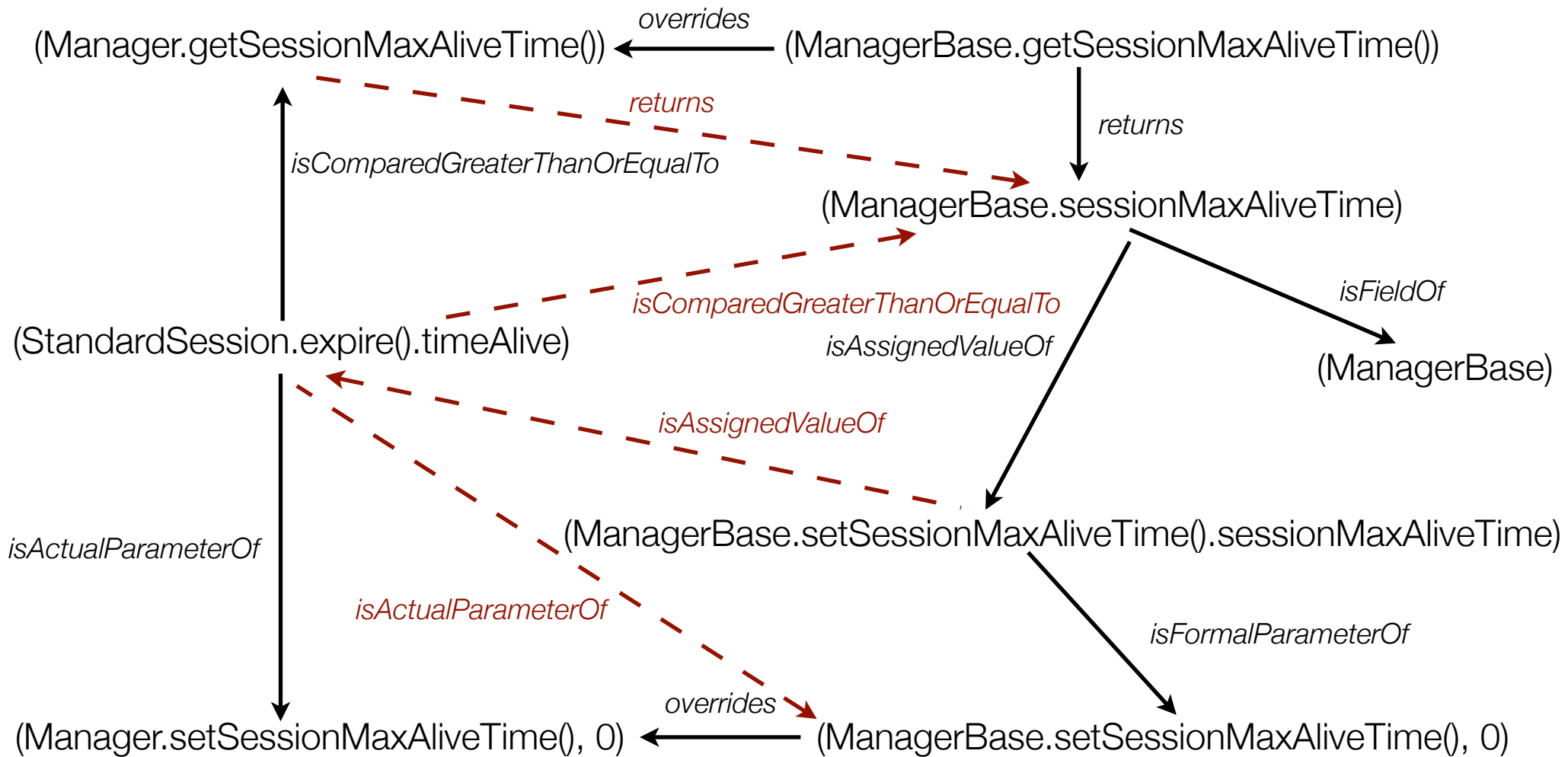
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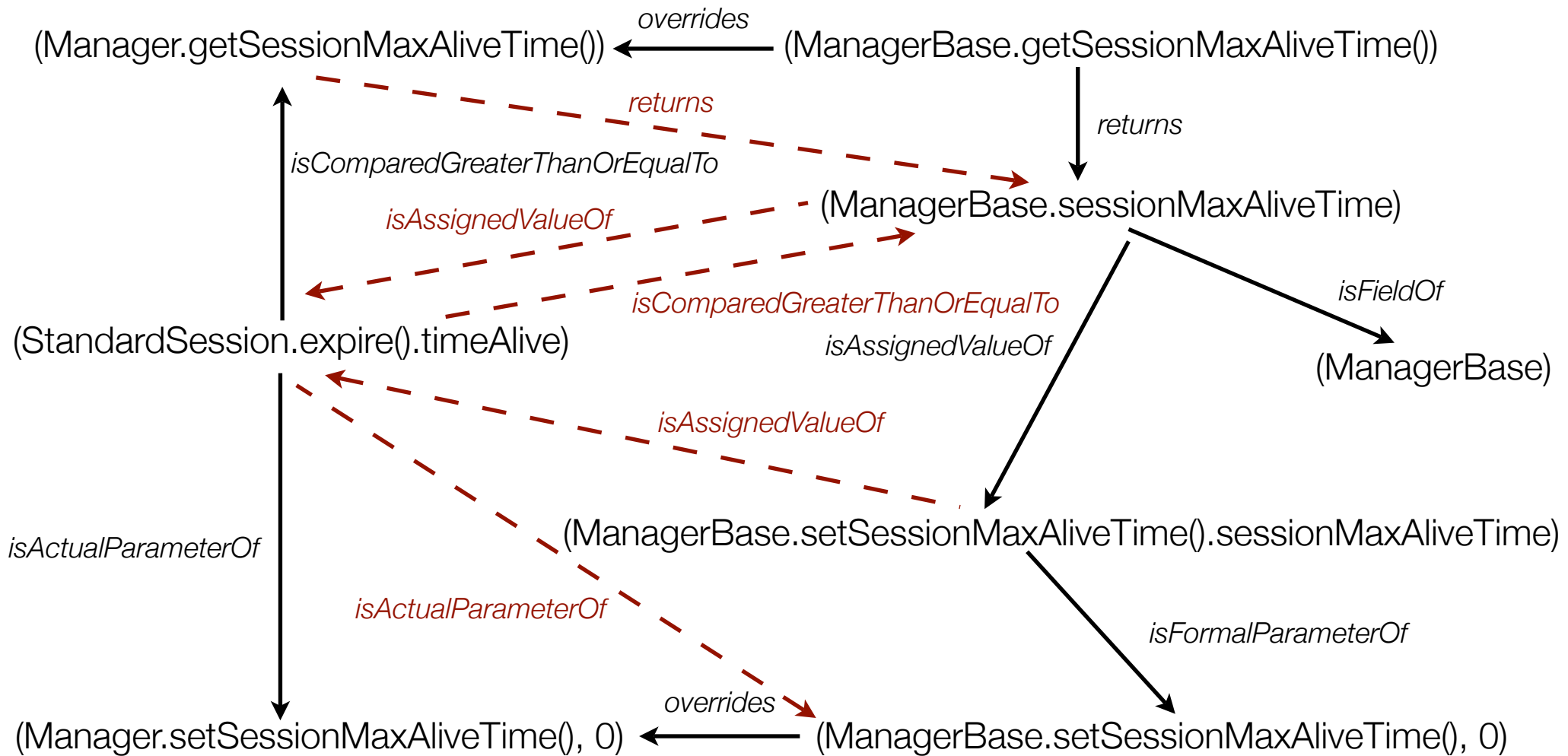
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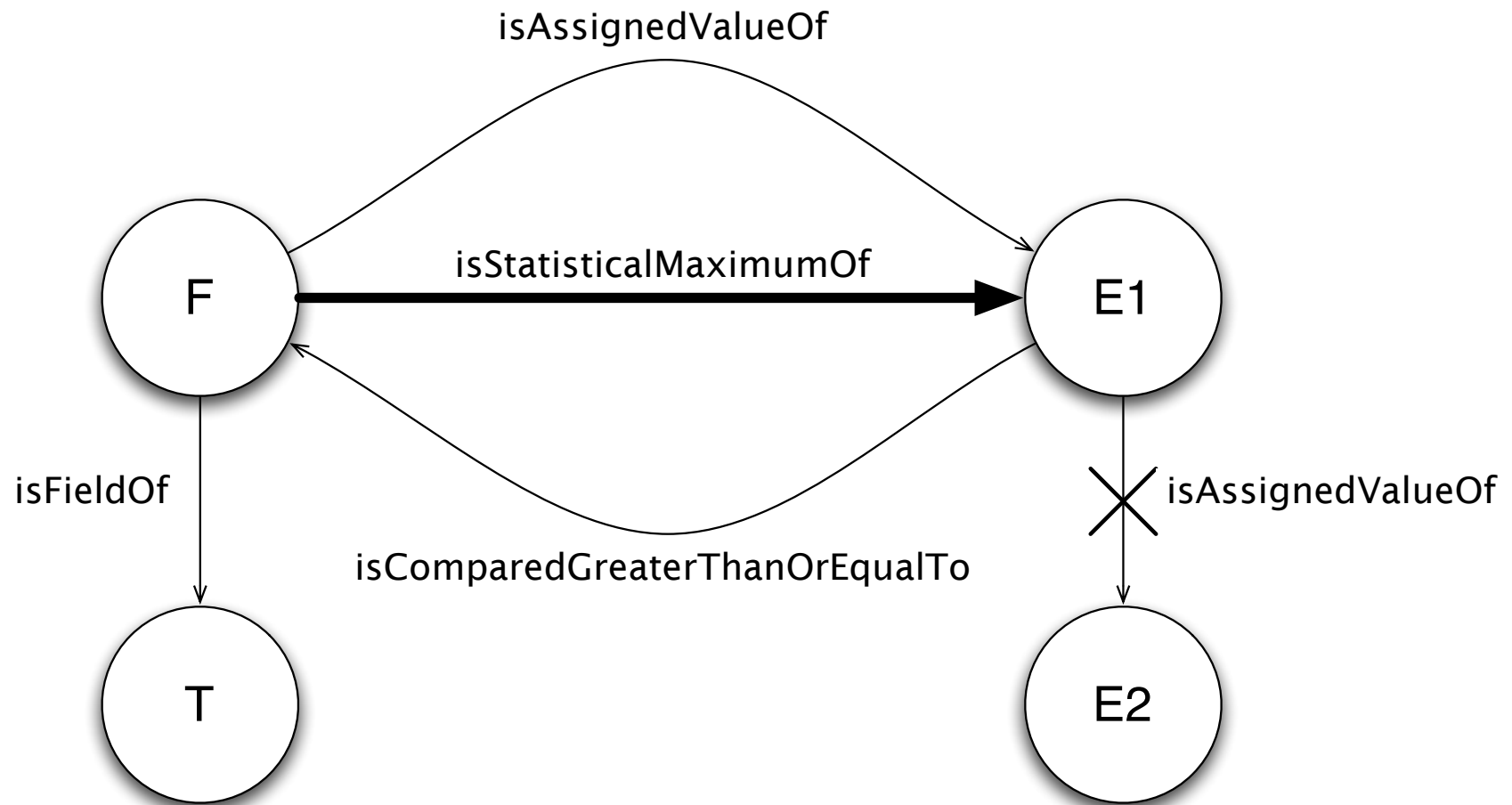


# Fact Extraction and Inference



# Graph Pattern Matching: Statistical Maximum

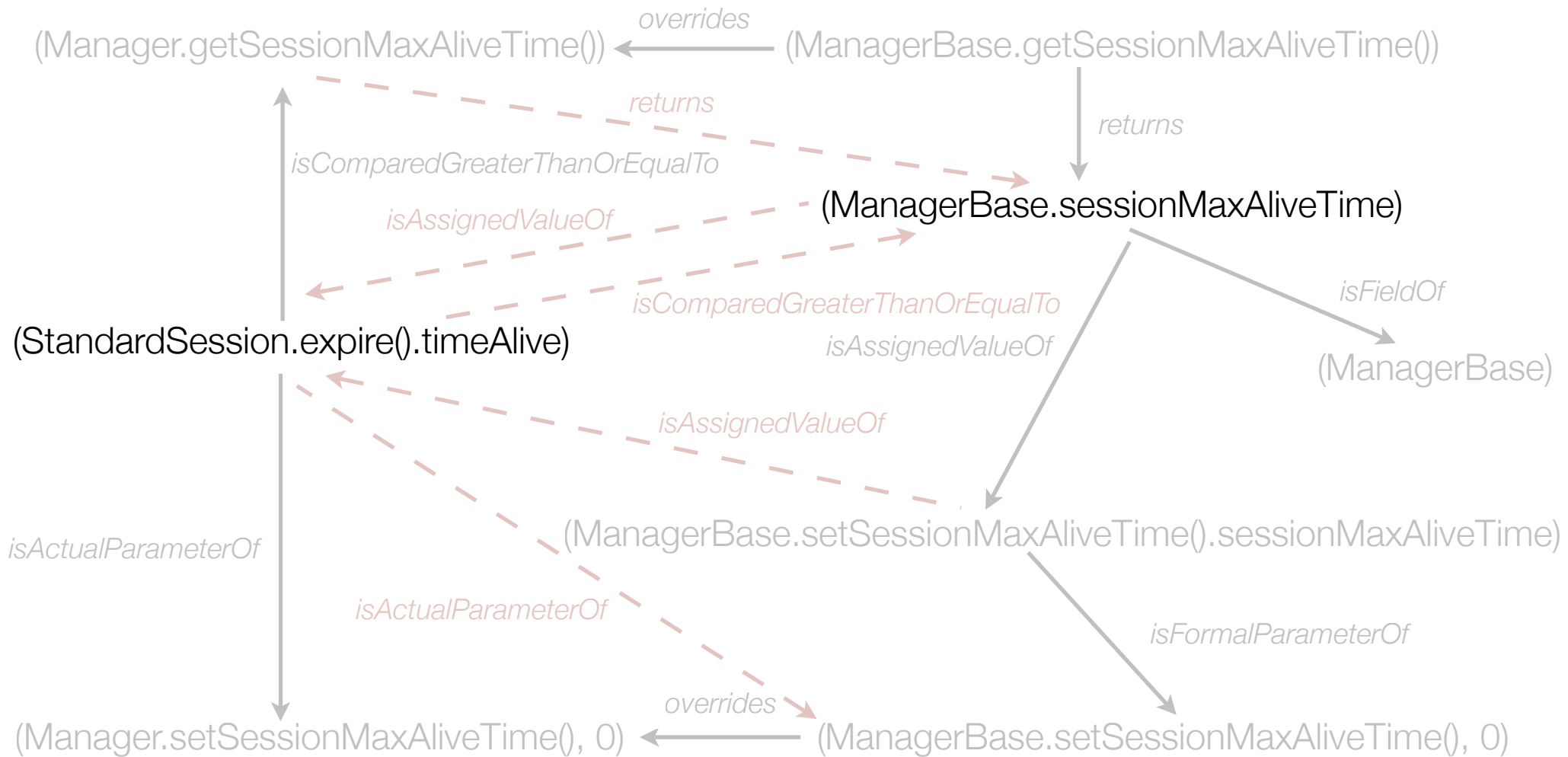
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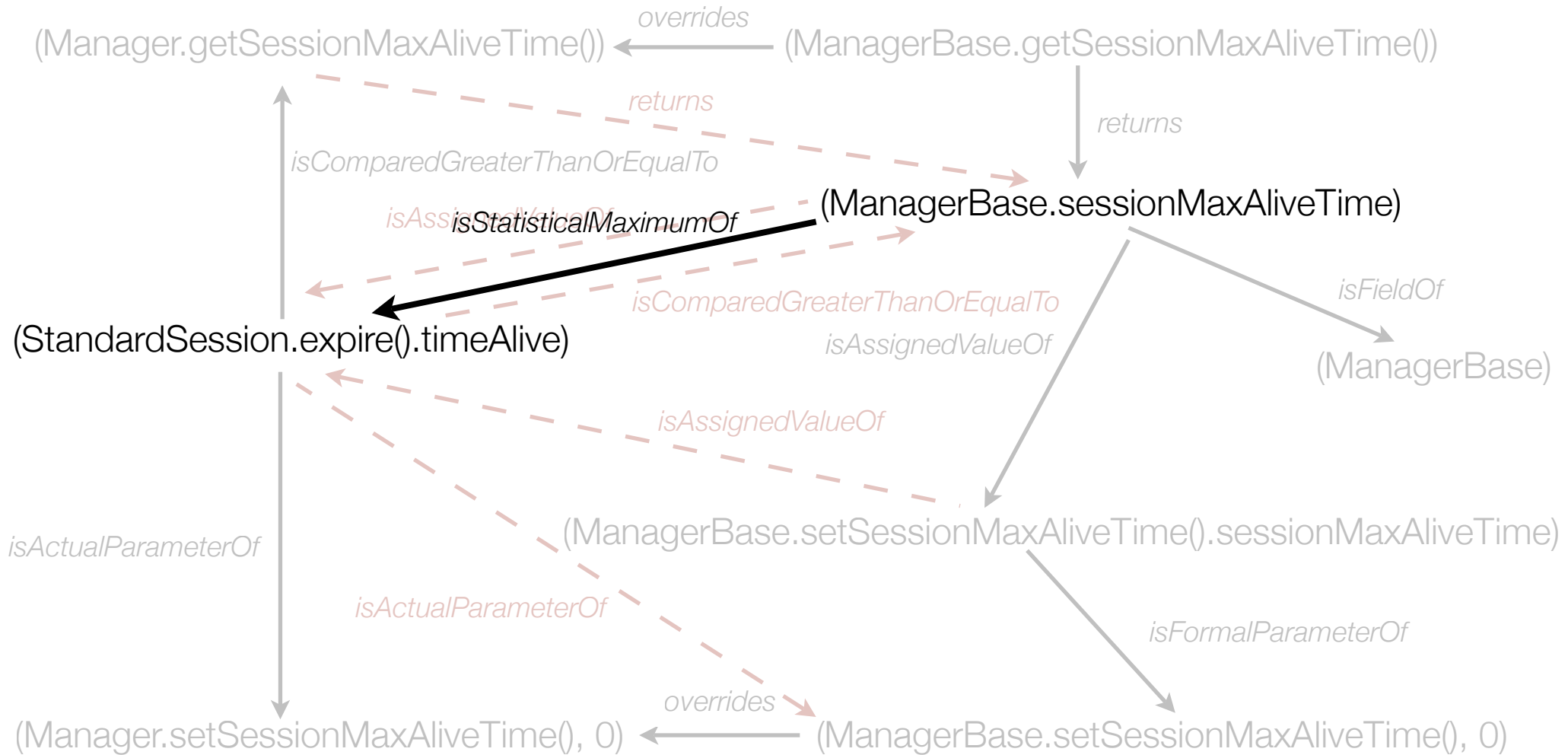




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- Implemented an Eclipse plug-in that extends the search framework to find tuning parameters: counter, size, statistical maximum
- Identifies catalogued tuning parameters along with some undocumented ones
- Successfully applied to another application domain (i.e., instant messaging server)

# Future Work

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- Taxonomy needs to be refined based on expert feedback, other application domains and patterns of use for implicit tuning patterns
- Source transformations to make implicit tuning parameters explicit (e.g., tree depths, cache hit rates)
- Orthogonal pattern characterisations based on resource stereotypes

# References

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- [1] Elizabeth Dancy, James R. Cordy, "STAC: Software Tuning Panels for Autonomic Control," CASCON, pp. 146-160, 2006 Conference of the Center For Advanced Studies on Collaborative Research, 2006.
- [2] Jeffrey O. Kephart, David M. Chess, "The Vision of Autonomic Computing," Computer, vol. 36, no. 1, pp. 41-50, Jan., 2003.
- [3] Andrew Malton, Kevin A. Schneider, James R. Cordy, Thomas. R. Dean, Darren Cousineau, Jason Reynolds, "Processing Software Source Text in Automated Design Recovery and Transformation," IWPC, p. 127, Ninth International Workshop on Program Comprehension, 2001.
- [4] Thomas R. Dean, James R. Cordy, Kevin A Schneider, Andrew J. Malton, "Using Design Recovery Techniques to Transform Legacy Systems," ICSM, p. 622, 17th IEEE International Conference on Software Maintenance, 2001.
- [5] R.C. Holt, "Binary Relational Algebra Applied to Software Architecture," Technical Report 345, Computer Science Research Institute, University of Toronto, March 1996.
- [6] M.P. Consens and A.O. Mendelzon, "GraphLog: A Visual Formalism for Real Life Recursion," PODS '90, Nashville, April 1990, pp. 404-416.
- [7] IBM Research Autonomic Computing Overview. Retrieved March 12, 2007 from <http://www.research.ibm.com/autonomic/overview/faqs.html#8>.