One to many relations and the nature of syntactic dependencies

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Various syntactic dependencies have been attested: φ-agreement, binding, selection, (structural) case, negative concord, and many others. All these dependencies also involve one-to-many relations. For instance, φ-agreement involves multiple markings of the features of one nominal (or other) expression. Binding involves multiple references to one discourse referent, etc. Such syntactic dependencies are also subject to syntactic locality conditions. At the same time, these dependencies also show various characteristic differences. In this talk I discuss to what extent such syntactic dependencies can be accounted for as different manifestations of the same underlying operations. I also address the question what the nature of such operations are; and how they are connected to each other within the model of grammar.