1.

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2 x Singular ≠≠≠≠ Plural

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It is commonly assumed that coordinated singular NPs have the same distribution as proper plural NPs, as illustrated by the following examples from German and English: Coordinated singular NPs, just like plural NPs, and unlike singular proper and singular collective nouns, trigger plural agreement, can occur with inherently collective predicates, and can antecede inherently plural anaphora:

(1) a. die Kommissare Schimansky und Tanner nahmen die Verfolgung auf.
   *Schimansky took-PLURAL the pursuit on
   *Die Streife

   b. The detectives Schimansky and Tanner were in pursuit.
   *Schimansky
   *The patrol

(2) a. die Kommissare Schimansky und Tanner wurde(n) getrennt.
   *Schimansky was/were separated
   *Die Streife

   b. The detectives Schimansky and Tanner were/*was separated.
   *Schimansky
   *The patrol

(3) a. die Kommissare Schimansky und Tanner kannte(n) einander.
   *Schimansky knew each other
   *Die Streife

   b. The detectives Schimansky and Tanner knew each other.
   *Schimansky
   *The patrol

Many current theories thus agree that coordinated singular NPs and inherent plural NPs are of the same syntactic category and denote semantic objects of the same type.
It is therefore genuinely unexpected and, within the realm of such theories inexplicable, to find a construction in which one, but not the other, can occur. This, however, is the case in the one of, German einer von, construction. The complement of one of can be a plural NP, but not two coordinated singular NPs (it also can't be a singular NP, collective or not):

(4) a. Einer von den Kommissaren fing den Bösewicht.
    One of the detectives caught the villain

b. One of us caught the villain.

    One of Schimansky and Tanner ate the curry spiced sausage.

b. *One of you and me ate the curry spiced sausage.

Two coordinated plural NPs in this position seem to be better. While I am not sure about the proper interpretation of the conjoined NPs, the disjoint NPs sound perfect:

(6) a. Einer von den Kommissaren oder den Streifenpolizisten bestellte ein Bier.
    One of the detectives or the street cops ordered a beer.

The existence of this contrast appears to pose a genuine challenge to the idea that coordinated singular NPs are in all relevant respects identical to plural NPs. It also raises the question what about the one of construction sets it apart from contexts like (1)-(3), and whether there are other constructions where the coordinated singular/plural distinction yields grammaticality differences.