Nominal constructions involving approximate numerals/quantifiers may show within and across languages different configurations of agreement: verbal agreement can target either the numeral item/quantifier (un centinaio in 1) or the embedded NP (senatori in 1) that bears the $\theta$ role interpretation (Brucart 1997, Demonte and Pérez-Jiménez 2015).

(1) un centinaio, di senatori, si sono dimessi, è dimesso.
‘A hundred senators have resigned.’

Italian (Lorusso & Franco, 2017)

We find parametric variation on the pattern of agreement with these constructions. One type of languages (as Italian in (1) or Spanish) allows optional agreement with both NPs. Another type of languages allow agreement just with the approximate numeral/quantifiers: see the example of Barese in (2). The same pattern is found in French, German (see Lorusso & Franco 2017 for a review).

(2) Na crosca, d puerc, ha mangiato/* han, mangiato i bastenaca.
‘A gang of pigs cl.refl has eaten/ have eaten the carrots
‘A gang of pigs ate the carrots’

Another type of languages is the one in which agreement targets only the embedded NP namely Occitan (3), and the (Campidanese) Sardinian (4).

(3) Una ardada de lops *ataquèt/ataquèron, la bòria
a pack of wolves attacked-3sg/attacked-3pl the farm
‘A pack of wolves has attacked/*have attacked the farm’

Occitan

(4) unus centu senatoris sindi *est sculaui/ funt sculaus
about hundred senators refl. be-3sg defeated.sg be-3pl defeated.pl
‘A hundred senators have resigned.’

Sardinian

The previous examples involve just number mismatches, but also gender, if present on the verbal morphology, works alike. Person features can play also a role in these environments. In Turkish, for example, while there is a preferential number agreement with the head (5), when complex NPs involve an embedded item marked for person (here 2pl) the preferred agreement is with the tail (6) (Ince, 2007).

(5) Biz-Ø Türk-ler-Ø ok al iş-ir-iz. sg-nom Turk-pl-nom very work-aor-1sg
‘We Turks work hard.’

Turkish

(6) Sinema-ya birka in iz/ikiniz-Ø gidecek-siniz.
cinema-dat a.few/two.of.you will.go-2pl
‘A few/two of you will go to the theater.’

(7) Una dozzina di noi *siamo andati /sono andati/ è andata al mare
a dozen of us * have gone 1pl/3pl/ has gone to the sea
‘A dozen of us has gone to the sea’

Italian

(8) Una docena de nosotros hemos ido a la playa
a dozen of us have gone-1pl to the sea
‘A dozen of us went to the beach’.

Spanish

In a nutshell, we will account for the parametric variation referring to (1) to the strategies of quantification involved by the indefinite article and the numeral quantifier NP and their derivation (phasal derivation as in Chomsky 2001) and (2) the $\phi$-features involved in the agreement with the verb (along the line of the Feature Hierarchy of Greenberg 1963).
References