

The primordial binary population. II.

Recovering the binary population for intermediate mass stars in Scorpius OB2[★]

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ABSTRACT

We characterize the binary population in the young and nearby OB association Scorpius OB2 (Sco OB2) using available observations of visual, spectroscopic, and astrometric binaries with intermediate-mass primaries. We take into account observational biases by comparing the observations with simulated observations of model associations. The available data indicate a large binary fraction (>70% with 3σ confidence), with a large probability that all intermediate mass stars in Sco OB2 are part of a binary system. The binary systems have a mass ratio distribution of the form $f_q(q) \propto q^{\gamma_q}$, with $\gamma_q \approx -0.4$. Sco OB2 has a semi-major axis distribution of the form $f_a(a) \propto a^{\gamma_a}$ with $\gamma_a \approx -1.0$ (Öpik's law), in the range $5 R_\odot \lesssim a \lesssim 5 \times 10^6 R_\odot$. The log-normal period distribution of Duquennoy & Mayor (1991) results in too few spectroscopic binaries, even if the model binary fraction is 100%. Sco OB2 is a young association with a low stellar density; its current population is expected to be very similar to the primordial population. The fact that practically all stars in Sco OB2 are part of a binary (or multiple) system demonstrates that multiplicity is a fundamental factor in the star formation process, at least for intermediate mass stars.

Key words. Galaxy: open clusters and associations: individual: Scorpius OB2 – stars: binaries: visual – stars: binaries: general – stars: formation

1. Introduction

Over the past decades observations have indicated that a large fraction of stars are part of a binary or multiple system. Apparently, multiplicity is an important aspect of the star formation process. Binaries also play a vital role in explaining many spectacular phenomena in astrophysics, e.g. supernovae type Ia (Yungelson & Livio 1998; Hillebrandt & Niemeyer 2000), short and long gamma-ray bursts (Fryer et al. 1999), OB runaway stars (Blaauw 1961; Hoogerwerf et al. 2001; Gualandris et al. 2004), and binary systems with compact remnants such as X-ray binaries, millisecond pulsars, and double neutron stars (van den Heuvel 1994; Fryer & Kalogera 1997). Binary systems are also known to strongly affect the dynamical evolution of dense stellar clusters (Hut et al. 1992; Portegies Zwart et al. 2001, 2007). This is an excellent motivation to characterize the outcome of the star forming process in terms of multiplicity and binary parameters.

In this paper we aim to recover the properties of the population of binaries that result from the formation process: the primordial binary population, which is defined as the *population of binaries as established just after the gas has been removed from the forming system, i.e., when the stars can no longer accrete gas from their surroundings* (Kouwenhoven et al. 2005).

The dynamical evolution of stars of a newly born stellar population is influenced by the presence of gas. After the gas has been removed 1–2 Myr after the formation of the first massive stars, the binary population is only affected by stellar evolution and pure N -body dynamics. From a numerical point of view, the primordial binary population can be considered as a boundary between hydrodynamical simulations and N -body simulations. Hydrodynamical simulations of a contracting gas cloud (e.g., Bate et al. 2003; Martel et al. 2006) produce stars. After the gas is removed by accretion and the stellar winds of the most massive O stars, pure N -body simulations (e.g., Portegies Zwart et al. 2001; Kroupa et al. 1999; Portegies Zwart et al. 2007) can be used to study the subsequent evolution of star clusters and the binary population.

OB associations are well suited for studying the primordial binary population. They are young, with ages ranging from ~ 2 Myr (Ori OB1b, Cyg OB2; see Brown et al. 1999; Hanson 2003) to ~ 50 Myr (α Persei, Cep OB6; see de Zeeuw et al. 1999). Among OB associations younger than $\lesssim 20$ Myr only a handful of the most massive systems have changed due to stellar evolution. The effects of dynamical evolution are expected to be limited due to their young age and low stellar density ($< 0.1 M_\odot \text{pc}^{-3}$). Moreover, OB associations cover the full range of stellar masses (e.g. Brown 2001), in contrast to the T associations, their low-mass counterparts.

In this paper we focus on Scorpius Centaurus (Sco OB2), the nearest young OB association, and thus a prime candidate

[★] Appendix A is only available in electronic form at <http://www.aanda.org>

for studying the binary population. The proximity of Sco OB2 (118–145 pc) facilitates observations, and the young age (5–20 Myr) ensures that dynamical evolution has not significantly altered the primordial binary population since the moment of gas removal. The membership and stellar content of the association were established by de Zeeuw et al. (1999) using *Hipparcos* parallaxes and proper motions, and its binary population is relatively well-studied.

Due to selection effects, it is not possible to observe the binary population in Sco OB2 directly. The dataset is hampered by the selection of the targets and instrumental limits on the observable range in semi-major axis, period, eccentricity and mass ratio. The fact that the observed binary population is biased makes it difficult to draw conclusions about the true binary population. However, by using the method of simulating observations of modeled stellar populations (e.g. Kouwenhoven 2006), it is possible to put constraints on the binary population. We accurately model the selection effects of the six major binarity surveys of Sco OB2, and compare simulated observations with the true observations, to determine the properties of the current binary population in Sco OB2.

The organization of this paper is as follows. In Sect. 2 we briefly describe the method and terminology that we use to recover the true binary population. In Sect. 3 we discuss the Sco OB2 association and membership issues. In Sect. 4 we describe the available datasets with visual, spectroscopic, and astrometric binaries in Sco OB2, and outline our models for the respective selection effects. In Sects. 5–7 we recover the mass ratio distribution and the semi-major axis distribution, and we constrain the eccentricity distribution for the binary population in Sco OB2, respectively. Conclusions on the intrinsic binary fraction of Sco OB2 are drawn in Sect. 8. The possible differences between the current binary population and primordial binary population in Sco OB2 are discussed in Sect. 9. In Sect. 10 we compare our results with those of others, and we discuss the validity of our assumptions. Finally, we summarize our main results in Sect. 11.

2. Method and terminology

We recover the binary population in Sco OB2 from observations using the method of simulating observations of modeled stellar populations. This method is extensively described in Kouwenhoven (2006), and is briefly summarized below.

With increasing computer power, it has become possible to create sophisticated models of star clusters and OB associations. One can compare these simulated associations with the observations of real associations in order to constrain the properties of the intrinsic binary population. However, this cannot be done directly, as the interpretation of the observational dataset is hampered by selection effects. Only a small (and biased) subset of the binary population is known. With the method of simulating observations of simulations (S.O.S.) one characterizes the selection effects, and applies these to the simulated association. The simulated observations that are then obtained can be compared directly with the real observations (see, e.g., Kouwenhoven 2006).

In order to recover the binary population in Sco OB2 we simulate OB association models with different properties. We compare each model with observational data, by simulating observations for each major binarity survey. With this comparison we identify which association model is consistent with the observations, and thus constrain the binary population in Sco OB2. Kouwenhoven (2006) shows that this is a safe method to derive the binary population. As long as the parameter space (of the

binary population) is fully searched, and as long as the selection effects are well-modeled, this method allows recovery of the intrinsic binary population, as well as the uncertainties on each derived property. Furthermore, unlike the S.O.S. method used in this paper, the traditional method of correcting for selection effects (using a “correction factor”) may lead to erroneous or unphysical results.

In this paper we make several assumptions when recovering the binary population in Sco OB2. In our model we consider only single stars and binary systems; no higher order multiples are assumed to be present. In Sect. 10.1 we will briefly return to the consequences of this assumption. We assume the distributions of the different observed parameters to be independent of each other:

$$f_{\text{BP}}(M_1, M_2, a, e, i, \omega, \Omega, \mathcal{M}) = f_{M_1, M_2}(M_1, M_2) f_a(a) f_e(e) f_i(i) f_\omega(\omega) f_\Omega(\Omega) f_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{M}), \quad (1)$$

where M_1 and M_2 are the primary and companion mass, a the semi-major axis, e the eccentricity, i the inclination, ω the argument of periastron, Ω the position angle of the line of nodes, and \mathcal{M} the mean anomaly at some instant of time. Alternatively, one can replace $f_a(a)$ by the orbital period distribution $f_P(P)$.

In our models the overall binary fraction for the association can be described with a single number, independent of the primary mass $F_M(M_1) \equiv F_M$. Observations of other stellar populations have suggested that the binary fraction may depend on primary mass or system mass, and that binary fraction tends to increase with increasing primary mass (e.g. Preibisch et al. 1999; Sterzik & Durisen 2004), though a quantitative description for $F_M(M_1)$ is still unavailable. In our models we therefore adopt a binary fraction independent of primary mass, so as to keep our description for the binary population in Sco OB2 as simple as possible. Note that Kouwenhoven (2006) has shown that selection effects may introduce a trend between binary fraction and primary mass in the observations, even though such an intrinsic trend may not be present in reality. However, our assumption does not influence the results significantly, as in this paper we only study the population of binary stars with an intermediate mass primary, mostly of spectral type B or A. As this corresponds to a small mass range, we neglect the possible correlation between binary fraction and primary mass (see Sect. 10.4 for a further discussion).

For the same reason, we assume the semi-major axis a and eccentricity e to be independent of primary mass. The independence of the semi-major axis a with respect to the eccentricity e may be a good approximation, as observations suggest that these parameters are only mildly correlated for solar-type stars in the solar neighbourhood (e.g., Duquennoy & Mayor 1991; Heacox 1997); see also Sect. 7. Note, however, that even in the case that this dependence is absent in the *intrinsic* population, a correlation may still be present in the observations due to selection effects. We assume that the inclination i , the argument of periastron ω , the position angle of the ascending node Ω , and the mean anomaly \mathcal{M} at some instant of time are independent of each other and of all other parameters. Finally, we assume that the binary systems have a random orientation in space (which is not necessarily implied by the previous assumptions). Even in the unlikely case that binary systems do not have a random orientation, the results do not change measurably (see Kouwenhoven 2006). Note that the primary and companion mass distributions are *never* independent, $f_{M_1, M_2}(M_1, M_2) \neq f_{M_1}(M_1)f_{M_2}(M_2)$, as by definition $M_1 \geq M_2$.

For reasons of simplicity, we ignore the interaction between close binary stars; our models do not include Roche Lobe

Table 1. Properties of the subgroups Upper Scorpius (US), Upper Centaurus Lupus (UCL), and Lower Centaurus Crux (LCC) of Sco OB2, and of our model for Sco OB2. Columns 2–4 list for each subgroup its distance, effective radius, and age. Column 5 lists the median interstellar extinction towards each subgroup. Column 6 lists the number of confirmed *Hipparcos* members of each subgroup, and is followed by the *observed* number of singles, binaries, triples, and higher-order systems among the confirmed members in Cols. 7–10, taken from Kouwenhoven et al. (2007). Finally, Cols. 11–13 list the observed multiplicity fraction, non-single star fraction, and companion star fraction among the confirmed members (see Kouwenhoven et al. 2005, for a definition of these fractions). Note that the latter quantities are lower limits due to the presence of unresolved binary and multiple systems. In the bottom row we list the properties of our Sco OB2 model. The number of systems $N = S + B$ (i.e., singles and binaries) used in our model includes substellar objects with masses down to $0.02 M_{\odot}$. References: (1) de Zeeuw et al. (1999); (2) de Geus et al. (1989); (3) Preibisch et al. (2002); (4) Mamajek et al. (2002); (5) de Bruijne (1999).

Subgroup	D pc	R pc	Age Myr	A_V mag	N_{\star}	S_{\star}	B_{\star}	T_{\star}	>3	$F_{M,\star}$	$F_{NS,\star}$	$F_{C,\star}$
US	145 ¹	$\sim 20^5$	5–6 ^{2,3}	0.47 ⁵	120 ¹	64	44	8	3	0.46	0.67	0.61
UCL	140 ¹	$\sim 35^5$	15–22 ⁴	0.06 ⁵	221 ¹	132	65	19	4	0.40	0.61	0.52
LCC	118 ¹	$\sim 35^5$	17–23 ⁴	0.05 ⁵	180 ¹	112	57	9	1	0.37	0.56	0.44
Model	130	20	5	0.00	9000	varying	varying	0	0	varying	varying	varying

overflow or common envelope evolution. Low-mass contact binaries, such as cataclysmic variables, WUMa binaries, and symbiotic stars generally appear on a timescale which is significantly longer than the age of Sco OB2. The higher-mass contact binaries, such as high-mass X-ray binaries, close binaries with mass reversal, and double pulsars could be present, or may have escaped the association as runaways. Due to the youth of Sco OB2, a few of the closest binaries may have evolved into such objects. The non-inclusion of this close binaries, however, is unlikely to affect our conclusions on the *primordial* binary population, as we adopt a lower limit to the period of 12 h (Sect. 6.1). If these binaries are present, our inferred binary fraction (Sect. 8) may be slightly underestimated.

Throughout this paper we denote the (intrinsic) probability density function of a binary parameter x as $f_x(x)$ and its cumulative distribution as $F_x(x)$. The corresponding *observed* distributions for a binarity survey are denoted as $\tilde{f}_x(x)$ and $\tilde{F}_x(x)$, respectively.

3. The Sco OB2 association

Sco OB2 is currently the best studied OB association. It consists of three subgroups: Upper Scorpius (US), Upper Centaurus Lupus (UCL) and Lower Centaurus Crux (LCC) (e.g., Blaauw 1964; de Zeeuw et al. 1999). These three subgroups are likely the result of triggered star formation (e.g., Blaauw 1991; Preibisch & Zinnecker 1999, 2007), and in turn may have triggered star formation in the ρ Ophiuchus region. Several properties of the three subgroups of Sco OB2 are listed in Table 1.

Preibisch et al. (2002) performed an extensive study of the single star population of the US subgroup of Sco OB2. They combine their observations of PMS-stars with those of Preibisch & Zinnecker (1999) and de Zeeuw et al. (1999) and derive an empirical mass distribution in the mass range $0.1 M_{\odot} \leq M \leq 20 M_{\odot}$ (Eq. (2)). Lodieu et al. (2006) on the other hand studied the low-mass and substellar population of Sco OB2 and find a best-fitting value $\alpha = -0.6 \pm 0.1$ of the mass distribution $f_M(M) \propto M^{\alpha}$ in the mass range $0.01\text{--}0.3 M_{\odot}$. The results of both studies overlap in the region $0.1\text{--}0.3 M_{\odot}$. In this region Preibisch et al. (2002) find a slope $\alpha = -0.9 \pm 0.2$ of the mass distribution, while Lodieu et al. (2006) find $\alpha = -0.6 \pm 0.1$. The slight difference between the measured slopes is likely statistical. It is clear, however, that the mass distribution for Sco OB2 has a break at a certain value M_{β} in (or near) the mass range $0.1\text{--}0.3 M_{\odot}$. For

this reason we model the mass distribution $f_M(M)$ in Sco OB2 as follows:

$$f_M(M) \equiv \frac{dN(M)}{dM} \propto \begin{cases} M^{-0.6 \pm 0.1} & M_{\min} \leq M < M_{\beta} \\ M^{-0.9 \pm 0.2} & M_{\beta} \leq M < 0.6 M_{\odot} \\ M^{-2.8 \pm 0.5} & 0.6 M_{\odot} \leq M < 2 M_{\odot} \\ M^{-2.6 \pm 0.5} & 2 M_{\odot} \leq M < 20 M_{\odot}, \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where $M_{\min} \lesssim 0.01 M_{\odot}$ and $0.1 M_{\odot} \lesssim M_{\beta} \lesssim 0.3 M_{\odot}$. Note that our adopted prescription for $f_M(M)$ roughly corresponds to the mass distribution derived by Kroupa (2001), while it is slightly steeper than Salpeter ($\alpha = -2.35$) in the intermediate-mass regime.

In our analysis we focus on deriving the properties of the intermediate mass binary population, as ample observations of these are available. Due to a lack of systematic surveys for binarity among low-mass stars in Sco OB2 we cannot constrain these. For these reasons, the form of the mass distribution $f_M(M)$ for $M \lesssim 1.5 M_{\odot}$ is irrelevant, *unless* both the primary and the companion are directly drawn from $f_M(M)$. In Sect. 5 we show that the observations exclude the latter possibility, given any reasonable value of M_{\min} and M_{β} . In Sect. 5 we will also show that binary systems in Sco OB2 are well described with a primary mass distribution $f_M(M)$ and a mass ratio distribution $f_q(q)$, so that the exact values of M_{\min} and M_{β} are irrelevant.

3.1. The model for Sco OB2

We create association models using the STARLAB simulation package (see, e.g., Portegies Zwart et al. 2001). The properties of the stellar and binary population are projected onto the space of observables using an extension of the STARLAB package. We adopt a Plummer model (Plummer 1911) with a projected half-mass radius of 20 pc, and assume virial equilibrium. Note that, as in this paper we do not evolve the models over time, the latter assumptions do not affect our results.

In our model for Sco OB2 we adopt a distance of 130 pc (the median distance of the confirmed members of Sco OB2) and an age of 5 Myr. Although the subgroups UCL and LCC are older than US, the systematic error introduced by our choice of the age is small. In our models we slightly overestimate the luminosity of stars in the UCL and LCC subgroups, but this affects only the stars close to the detection limit (see Sect. 3.2), and does not affect the properties of our simulated observations significantly. The error in the age neither affects the interpretation of the observed mass ratio distribution, as each observed mass and mass ratio is derived from the absolute magnitude of the stars, assuming the correct age for the subgroup, and using the *Hipparcos*

parallax for each star individually. The distribution of these observed mass ratios are then compared with those of the model.

We adopt the extended Preibisch mass distribution in Eq. (2) for our model of Sco OB2. We make the assumptions that (1) the mass distribution for the subgroups UCL and LCC is identical to that of US, (2) we adopt a minimum mass $M_{\min} = 0.02 M_{\odot}$ (i.e., we do not consider planetary-mass objects in our mass distribution), and (3) we adopt $M_{\beta} = 0.1 M_{\odot}$ for the mass distribution. As in our study we focus on intermediate-mass binaries, assumptions (2) and (3) are only of importance if *both* components are directly drawn from the mass distribution. In Sect. 5 we discuss this issue and we will show that the exact values of M_{\min} and M_{β} are irrelevant for our study.

Preibisch et al. (2002) estimate that the US subgroup contains approximately 2525 single/primary stars in the mass range $0.1\text{--}20 M_{\odot}$. With the extension to lower mass in Eq. (2) the number of singles/primaries is higher, as we also include the very low mass stars and brown dwarfs. For a minimum mass $M_{\min} = 0.01 M_{\odot}$ and a value $M_{\beta} = 0.1 M_{\odot}$, and assuming that the UCL and LCC subgroups have an equal number of singles/primaries, the total number of singles/primaries in Sco OB2 is approximately 9200. For a value $M_{\beta} \approx 0.1 M_{\odot}$ in Eq. (2) the number of singles/primaries is approximately 8000. Free-floating planets ($M_1 \lesssim 0.02 M_{\odot}$) are not included in the above statistics. We will therefore adopt $N = S + B = 9000$ systems ($M_1 > 0.08 M_{\odot}$) in our simulations, where S is the number of single stars, and B the number of binary systems.

3.2. Photometry

We obtain the magnitude of each simulated star in the optical and near-infrared bands using the isochrones described in Kouwenhoven et al. (2005). These isochrones consist of models from Chabrier et al. (2000) for $0.02 M_{\odot} \leq M < 1 M_{\odot}$, Palla & Stahler (1999) for $1 M_{\odot} \leq M < 2 M_{\odot}$, and Girardi et al. (2002) for $M > 2 M_{\odot}$. We adopt the isochrone corresponding to an age of 5 Myr and solar metallicity. By adopting 5 Myr isochrones we overestimate the brightness of 20 Myr old stars by ~ 0.05 mag in JHK_S for stars with $M \gtrsim 1 M_{\odot}$ and by ~ 0.5 mag in JHK_S for stars with $M \lesssim 1 M_{\odot}$. The error introduced by the metallicity (~ 0.05 mag in JHK_S) is negligible for our purposes: see Kouwenhoven et al. (2007) for a more detailed description of these matters. The *Hipparcos* magnitude H_p for each star is derived from its V magnitude and $V - I$ colour, using the tabulated values listed in the *Hipparcos* Catalogue (ESA 1997, Vol. 1, Sect. 14.2). For each star we convert the absolute magnitude into the apparent magnitude using the *Hipparcos* parallax of each star. We do not include interstellar extinction in our models. Sco OB2 is practically cleared of gas. The median visual extinction for the member stars of the three subgroups is $A_{V,US} = 0.5$ mag, $A_{V,UCL} = 0.06$ mag, and $A_{V,LCC} = 0.05$ mag, respectively (de Bruijne 1999), which translate to values of $A_{K_S,US} \approx 0.05$ mag, $A_{K_S,UCL} \approx 0.006$ mag, and $A_{K_S,LCC} \approx 0.006$ mag in the near-infrared (Mathis 1990). For the purpose of our study the interstellar extinction can thus be neglected, in particular for the study of the near-infrared surveys of Shatsky & Tokovinin (2002), Kouwenhoven et al. (2005), and Kouwenhoven et al. (2007).

3.3. Sco OB2 membership

De Zeeuw et al. (1999) have published a census of the stellar content and membership of nearby ($\lesssim 1$ kpc) OB associations.

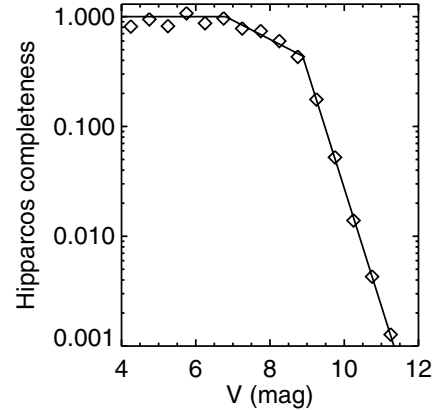


Fig. 1. The completeness of the *Hipparcos* catalogue in the Sco OB2 region, as a function of V magnitude. The diamonds represent the ratio between the number of stars in the *Hipparcos* catalogue and the number of stars in the *TYCHO-2* catalogue, in each V magnitude bin. The comparison above is made for the Sco OB2 region, and is similar for each of the three subgroups of Sco OB2. The solid line represents the model for the completeness adopted in this paper (Eq. (3)).

They present a list of 521 members of the Sco OB2 association, based on the *Hipparcos* position, proper motion, and parallax of each star. Of these members, 120 are in the US subgroup, 221 in UCL, and 180 in LCC. Due to the *Hipparcos* completeness limit, most of the confirmed members are bright ($V \lesssim 8$ mag) and mostly of spectral type B, A, and F.

In the analysis of the observational data (Sect. 4) we consider only the confirmed members of Sco OB2 (i.e., those identified by de Zeeuw et al. 1999), all of which are in the *Hipparcos* catalogue. Among the stars observed by *Hipparcos* it is unlikely that a Sco OB2 member star is not identified as such. On the other hand, it is possible that non-members are falsely classified as members of Sco OB2; the so-called interlopers. The fraction of interlopers among the “confirmed” Sco OB2 members stars is estimated to be $\sim 6\%$ for B stars, $\sim 13\%$ for A stars, and $\sim 22\%$ for F and G stars (see Tables A2 and C1 in de Zeeuw et al. 1999). The interlopers among B and A stars are likely Gould Belt stars, which have a distance and age comparable to that of the nearby OB associations. In our analysis we assume that all confirmed members in the list of de Zeeuw et al. (1999) are truly member stars, and do not attempt to correct for the presence of interlopers.

The *Hipparcos* completeness limit is studied in detail by Söderhjelm (2000). His prescription for the completeness is based on all entries in the *Hipparcos* catalogue. However, many OB associations were studied in detail by *Hipparcos*, based on candidate membership lists. Due to the *Hipparcos* crowding limit of 3 stars per square degree, only a selected subset of the candidate members of Sco OB2 was observed (see de Zeeuw et al. 1999, for details), which significantly complicates the modeling of the *Hipparcos* completeness. We therefore calibrate the completeness of *Hipparcos* in the Sco OB2 region by comparing the number of *Hipparcos* entries with the number of stars of a given magnitude in the same region. We use the *TYCHO-2* catalogue for this comparison. The *TYCHO-2* catalogue is complete to much fainter stars than *Hipparcos*. In Fig. 1 we show the proportion P of stars that is in the *Hipparcos* catalogue, relative to the number of stars in the *TYCHO-2* catalogue, as a function

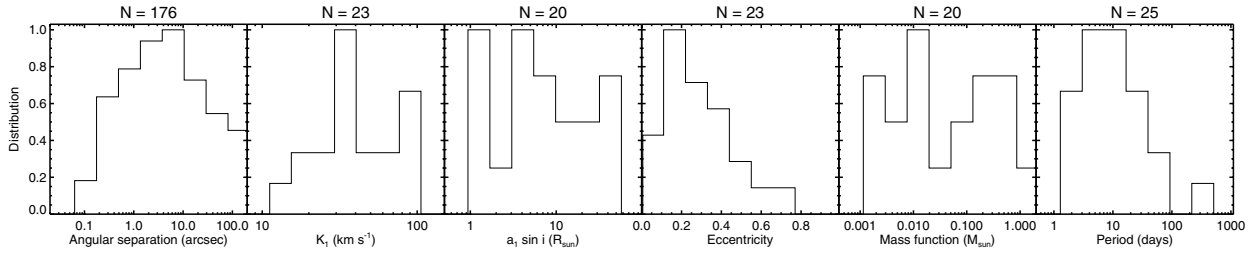


Fig. 2. Properties of the *observed* binary population in Sco OB2. Only the 521 confirmed members of Sco OB2 are considered. The *top-left* panel shows the angular separation distribution for visual binaries, at the moment of observation. The other panels show the distribution over radial velocity amplitude K_1 , the projected semi-major axis $a_1 \sin i$, the eccentricity e , the mass function $\mathcal{F}(M)$, and the period P , derived for the orbits of the spectroscopic binaries (SB1 and SB2), and for HIP 78918, the only astrometric binary in Sco OB2 with an orbital solution. The measurements shown in this figure include those of multiple systems. Above each panel we indicate the number of companions for which the corresponding orbital element is available. Spectroscopic and astrometric binaries without an orbital solution are not included.

of V magnitude. We model the proportion P as a function of V with three line segments:

$$\log P(V) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } V \leq 6.80 \text{ mag} \\ 1.18 - 0.17 V & \text{for } 6.80 \text{ mag} < V \leq 8.88 \text{ mag} \\ 9.18 - 1.07 V & \text{for } 8.88 \text{ mag} < V. \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

The *TYCHO-2* catalogue is 99% complete down to $V = 11$ mag and 90% complete down to $V = 11.5$. The completeness of the *Hipparcos* catalogue for $V \gtrsim 11$ mag is therefore not accurately described by Eq. (3). However, this does not affect our results, as the surveys under study only include the brightest members of Sco OB2. In this model we ignore the fact that the *Hipparcos* completeness also depends on spectral type.

Apart from the large membership study of de Zeeuw et al. (1999), several others have been performed. Several recent studies have focused on the membership of low-mass objects, in particular of brown dwarfs (e.g. Kraus et al. 2005; Slesnick et al. 2006; Lodieu et al. 2006). These studies often focus on a small group of suspected members in a specific region of Sco OB2, and the membership is mostly based on the (less accurate) photometric method. As no census on membership of low-mass stars and brown dwarfs is currently available, we do not include these in our analysis.

4. Observations of binary systems in Sco OB2

A large fraction of the Sco OB2 member stars is known to be part of a binary or multiple system. In Table 1 we have provided an overview of the *observed* binary fraction in the association, for which we included all known binary and multiple systems in Sco OB2. In total there are 266 known companions among the 521 confirmed members of Sco OB2, most of which are intermediate mass stars. The multiplicity fraction in Sco OB2 is *at least* 40% among these stars, assuming that all proposed companions are indeed physical companions. The references for these binary and multiple systems are listed in Table 2. Figure 2 shows several observed parameter distributions. These *observed* distributions are not representative of the *intrinsic* distributions, as selection effects prohibit the detection of a significant fraction of the companion stars. Furthermore, it is possible that several of the reported companions are spurious, including for example bright background stars that are projected close to a Sco OB2 member star.

The known binary systems in Sco OB2 were discovered by different observers, using various techniques and instruments. As each of these observing runs is characterized by specific selection effects, it is difficult to study each of these in detail. We

Table 2. References to literature data with spectroscopic, astrometric, eclipsing, and visual binaries among the *Hipparcos* members of Sco OB2. The data for a number of binary systems in Sco OB2 is taken from several catalogues. This table is similar to the one presented in Kouwenhoven et al. (2005), but is updated with recent discoveries.

Reference	Detection method
Alencar et al. (2003)	Spectroscopic
Andersen et al. (1993)	Combination
Balega et al. (1994)	Visual
Barbier-Brossat et al. (1994)	Spectroscopic
Batten et al. (1997)	Spectroscopic
Buscombe & Kennedy (1962)	Spectroscopic
Chen et al. (2006)	Visual
Couteau (1995)	Combination
The Double Star Library	Combination
Duflot et al. (1995)	Spectroscopic
Hartkopf et al. (2001)	Visual
Jilinski et al. (2006)	Spectroscopic
Jordi et al. (1997)	Eclipsing
The <i>Hipparcos</i> and <i>TYCHO</i> Catalogues	Astrometric
Kraicheva et al. (1989)	Spectroscopic
Kouwenhoven et al. (2005)	Visual
Kouwenhoven et al. (2007)	Visual
Lindroos (1985)	Visual
Malkov (1993)	Combination
Mason (1995)	Visual
McAlister et al. (1993)	Visual
Miscellaneous, e.g. SIMBAD	Combination
Miura et al. (1992)	Visual
Nitschelm (2004)	Spectroscopic
Pedoussaut et al. (1996)	Spectroscopic
Shatsky & Tokovinin (2002)	Visual
Sowell & Wilson (1993)	Visual
Svechnikov & Bessonova (1984)	Combination
Tokovinin (1997)	Combination
Worley & Douglass (1997)	Combination

therefore focus primarily on a subset of the surveys: those of Kouwenhoven et al. (2005, 2007); Shatsky & Tokovinin (2002); Levato et al. (1987); Brown & Verschueren (1997), and those detected by *Hipparcos* (ESA 1997). We refer to these papers and the corresponding datasets as KO5, KO6, SHT, LEV, BRV, and HIP, hereafter. An overview of the number of observed targets and detected binary systems in each dataset is presented in Table 3. Combined, these datasets contain a large fraction of the known binary and multiple systems in Sco OB2. The selection effects for each of these datasets can be modeled, making it possible to use the method of simulated observations. In the

Table 3. An overview of the datasets used to derive the properties of the binary population in Sco OB2. Columns 1–3 list the dataset acronym, the reference, and the type of binary studied in the dataset. Columns 4 and 5 list the number of targets in the original dataset, and the number of companions found for these targets. Columns 6 and 7 list the number of targets and companions used in our analysis. This dataset is smaller than the original dataset, as we do not include the non-members of Sco OB2 in our analysis and at most one companion per targeted star in the case of a multiple systems. The datasets partially overlap, which is taken into account when these are combined in the following sections. We list in this table the total number of spectroscopic binaries, including the radial velocity variables (RVVs; irrespective of their true nature), SB1s, and SB2s. For the *Hipparcos* observations we list the number of entries in the categories (X), (O), (G), (C), and (S), among the confirmed members of Sco OB2.

Abbreviation	Reference	Dataset	N_{orig}	B_{orig}	N_{used}	B_{used}
KO5	Kouwenhoven et al. (2005)	Visual	199	74	199	60
KO6	Kouwenhoven et al. (2007)	Visual	22	29	22	18
SHT	Shatsky & Tokovinin (2002)	Visual	115	25	87	23
LEV	Levato et al. (1987)	Spectroscopic	81	61	53	39
BRV	Brown & Verschueren (1997)	Spectroscopic	156	91	71	47
HIP	Perryman et al. (1997)	Astrometric/Visual	521	125	521	125

following sections we describe these five datasets, and discuss our model for the selection effects.

In our approach we follow the modeling of the selection effects for visual, spectroscopic, and astrometric binarity surveys, which is extensively discussed in Kouwenhoven (2006). A summary of the modeled selection effects for each of the surveys is given in Table 4. With the *sample bias* we refer to the process of selecting the targets of interest. A selected sample for a survey usually consists of a group of stars with specific properties, such as the solar-type stars in the solar neighbourhood, or the B stars in an association. In the case of a binary survey among the members of an OB association, the observer may erroneously include a bright background star, assuming that it is an association member. We consider this part of the sample bias, although we do not discuss this aspect in this paper. When the selected targets are surveyed for binarity, observational constraints are responsible for the *instrument bias*. For example, the minimum and maximum detectable angular separation of binary stars is determined by the properties of the telescope and the detector. We include in the instrument bias the selection effects imposed by the telescope-instrument combination and atmospheric conditions. We additionally include the bias that results from the difficulties of identifying companions. For example, faint companions at a large separation of their primary may not always be identified as such, due to the confusion with background stars.

4.1. KO5 – Kouwenhoven et al. (2005) observations

Kouwenhoven et al. (2005) performed a near-infrared adaptive optics binarity survey among A and late-B members of Sco OB2. Their observations were obtained with the ADONIS/SHARPII+ system on the ESO 3.6 meter telescope at La Silla, Chile. Adaptive optics was used to obtain high spatial resolution, in order to bridge the gap between the known close spectroscopic and wide visual binaries. The survey was performed in the near-infrared, as in this wavelength regime the contrast between the components of a binary system with a high mass ratio is less than in the visual regime. All targets were observed in the K_S band, and several additionally in the J and H bands. KO5 selected their sample of A and late-B targets from the list of confirmed *Hipparcos* members that were identified by de Zeeuw et al. (1999). All targets have $6 \text{ mag} \lesssim V \lesssim 9 \text{ mag}$, which corresponds to similar limits in the K_S band.

With their observations KO5 are sensitive to companions as faint as $K_S \approx 15.5 \text{ mag}$, corresponding to the brightness of a massive planet in Sco OB2. Due to the large probability of finding faint background stars in the field of view, KO5 classify

all secondaries with $K_S > 12 \text{ mag}$ as background stars, and those with $K_S \leq 12 \text{ mag}$ as candidate companion stars. The $K_S = 12$ criterion separates companion stars and background stars in a statistical manner, and is based on the background star study of SHT. A member of Sco OB2 with $K_S = 12 \text{ mag}$ has a mass close to the hydrogen-burning limit. The follow-up study of KO6 with VLT/NACO (see Sect. 4.2) has shown that the $K_S = 12$ criterion correctly classifies secondaries as companions in 80–85% of the cases. With their survey KO5 find 151 secondaries around the 199 target stars. Out of these 151 secondaries, 74 are candidate companions ($K_S \leq 12 \text{ mag}$), and 77 are background stars ($K_S > 12 \text{ mag}$). KO5 find that the mass ratio distribution $f_q(q)$ for late-B and A type stars in Sco OB2 is consistent with $f_q(q) \propto q^{-0.33}$, and exclude random pairing between primary and companion.

4.1.1. Treatment of the KO5 dataset

All 199 targets in the KO5 dataset are confirmed members of Sco OB2, and are therefore included in our analysis. We use in our analysis a subset of the companions identified in KO5. Several targets in the ADONIS survey have more than one candidate or confirmed companion. In this paper we do not study triples and higher-order multiples; we consider at most one companion per target star. For each of these candidate multiple systems we include the (candidate) companion that is most likely a physical companion. For HIP 52357 we include the companion with $(\rho, K_S) = (0.53'', 7.65 \text{ mag})$, as it is brighter and closer to the target star than the candidate companion with $(\rho, K_S) = (10.04'', 11.45 \text{ mag})$. For the same reason, we do not include the wide and faint candidate companion of HIP 61796 with $(\rho, K_S) = (12.38'', 11.86 \text{ mag})$ in our analysis. KO5 find two bright and close companions of HIP 76001, with $(\rho, K_S) = (0.25'', 7.80 \text{ mag})$ and $(\rho, K_S) = (1.48'', 8.20 \text{ mag})$, respectively. Although HIP 76001 is likely a physical triple, we choose to retain only the innermost candidate companion. KO5 find a bright secondary separated $1.8''$ from HIP 63204. With their follow-up study, KO6 find a close companion at $\rho = 0.15''$. KO6 show that this close companion is physical, while the secondary at $1.8''$ is optical; we do not consider the latter secondary in our analysis.

HIP 68532 and HIP 69113 are both confirmed triple systems, each with a primary and a “double companion”. For both HIP 68532 and HIP 69113, the two stars in the “double companion” have a similar separation and position angle with respect to the primary, and a similar magnitude. In physical terms, the double companions of HIP 68532 and HIP 69113 could have originated from a more massive companion that fragmented into a

Table 4. An overview of the models for the selection effects used to generate simulated observations of simulated OB associations, for the six major datasets discussed in Sects. 4.1 to 4.6. The *sample bias*, resulting from the choice of the sample alone, includes the observer’s choice and the brightness constraint. All other constraints result from the properties of the telescope, detector, atmospheric conditions, and confusion with background stars, and are in this paper referred to as the *instrument bias*. For a detailed description of the constraints mentioned in this table we refer to Sect. 4.5 of Kouwenhoven (2006).

KO5 – (Kouwenhoven et al. 2005) – Visual binaries	
Observer’s choice	A and late-B members of Sco OB2 (incl. <i>Hipparcos</i> completeness)
Brightness constraint	$5.3 \text{ mag} \leq V_1 \leq 9.5 \text{ mag}, M_1 \geq 1.4 M_\odot$
Separation constraint	Eq. (7)
Contrast constraint	Eq. (4)
Confusion constraint	$K_{S,2} \leq 12 \text{ mag}$
KO6 – (Kouwenhoven et al. 2007) – Visual binaries	
Observer’s choice	A selection (11%) of the KO5 sample
Brightness constraint	$5.3 \text{ mag} \leq V_1 \leq 9.5 \text{ mag}, M_1 \geq 1.4 M_\odot$
Separation constraint	Eq. (10)
Contrast constraint	Eq. (8)
Confusion constraint	Not applicable
SHT – Shatsky & Tokovinin (2002) – Visual binaries	
Observer’s choice	B members of Sco OB2 (incl. <i>Hipparcos</i> completeness)
Brightness constraint	$V_1 \leq 7.0 \text{ mag}, M_1 \geq 3.5 M_\odot$
Separation constraint (idem)	Non-coronographic mode: Eq. (11) Coronographic mode: Eq. (14)
Contrast constraint (idem)	Non-coronographic mode: Eq. (13) Coronographic mode: Eq. (15)
Confusion constraint	$K_{S,2} \leq 12 \text{ mag}, J_2 \leq 13 \text{ mag},$ and $J_2 - K_{S,2} < 1.7 \text{ mag}$
LEV – Levato et al. (1987) – Spectroscopic binaries	
Observer’s choice	B members of Sco OB2 (incl. <i>Hipparcos</i> completeness)
Brightness constraint	$V_{\text{comb}} \leq 8.1 \text{ mag}, M_1 \geq 3 M_\odot$
Contrast constraint	Not applicable
Amplitude constraint	Spectroscopic bias model SB-W
Temporal constraint	with $T = 2.74 \text{ year}, \Delta T = 0.38 \text{ year},$
Aliasing constraint	and $\epsilon_{\text{RV}} = 3.1 \text{ km s}^{-1}.$
Sampling constraint	Not applied
BRV – Brown & Verschueren (1997) – Spectroscopic binaries	
Observer’s choice	B members of Sco OB2 (incl. <i>Hipparcos</i> completeness)
Brightness constraint	$V_1 \leq 7.0 \text{ mag}, M_1 \geq 3.5 M_\odot$
Contrast constraint	Not applicable
Amplitude constraint	Spectroscopic bias model SB-W,
Temporal constraint	with $T = 2.25 \text{ year}, \Delta T = 0.75 \text{ year},$
Aliasing constraint	and $\epsilon_{\text{RV}} = 1.4 \text{ km s}^{-1}.$
Sampling constraint	Not applied
HIP – <i>Hipparcos</i> mission – Astrometric binaries	
Brightness constraint	<i>Hipparcos</i> completeness
Amplitude constraint	Classification into the
Temporal constraint	categories (X), (C), (O), or (G)
Aliasing constraint	depending on the observables
Sampling constraint	of each binary system (see Table 6)

binary. We therefore model the double companions of these stars as single companions, taking the average ρ and φ , the combined K_S magnitude, and the total mass of each double companion.

For the comparison with the simulated observations the targets HIP 77315 and HIP 77317 are both considered as individual, single stars. The star HIP 77317 is known to be a companion of HIP 77315 at $\rho = 37.37''$, and is for that reason listed as such in KO5. This binary system is far too wide to be detected with the observing strategy of KO5; both stars are therefore treated

as individual stars. With the ADONIS survey KO5 find three candidate companions of HIP 81972. Of these three, only the secondary at separation $5.04''$ is a confirmed companion in the follow-up study of Kouwenhoven et al. (2007). As HIP 81972 is near the Galactic plane, the other two secondaries are likely background stars, and are thus not included in the dataset.

KO5 separated the secondaries into candidate companions and background stars using the K_S magnitude of each secondary. The follow-up study of KO6, using multi-colour analysis, has shown that several of these candidate companions are background stars. We do not consider in our analysis these secondaries, indicated with HIP 53701-1 ($K_S = 8.9 \text{ mag}$), HIP 60851-1 ($K_S = 11.5 \text{ mag}$), HIP 60851-2 ($K_S = 11.3 \text{ mag}$), HIP 80142-1 ($K_S = 9.51 \text{ mag}$), and HIP 80474-1 ($K_S = 10.8 \text{ mag}$) in KO6.

The resulting KO5 dataset that we use for our analysis contains data for 199 targets with a total of 60 companion stars. For each of these targets and their companions we use the measurements given in KO5, unless more recent (and more accurate) measurements for these stars are presented in the follow-up study of KO6. For each of the targets HIP 63204, HIP 73937, and HIP 79771 a new close companion is resolved by KO6, which was unresolved in the observations of KO5. For these three targets we use the properties of the primary star as provided by KO6.

The mass of each primary and companion is derived from the near-infrared magnitude. If available, the mass of each star is taken from KO6, who use the JHK_S magnitude to derive the mass. In all other cases the mass is taken from KO5, who derive the mass from the K_S magnitude only. The more recently determined masses allow us to better constrain the properties of the binary population in Sco OB2. Finally, the mass ratio $q = M_2/M_1$ is calculated for each binary system. In the Appendix (Table A.1) we list the properties of the binaries used for comparison with simulated observations.

4.1.2. Modeling the observational bias of KO5

We model the sample bias in KO5 as follows. The authors selected the A and late-B members of Sco OB2. As these members were identified as such in the *Hipparcos* membership study of de Zeeuw et al. (1999) we first impose the *Hipparcos* completeness (see Sect. 3.3) on the simulated association. Based on the properties of the target list of KO5, we model the observer’s choice and brightness constraint by removing all targets (i.e. singles and primaries) with $V < 5.3 \text{ mag}$, all targets with $V > 9.5 \text{ mag}$, and all targets with $M < 1.4 M_\odot$ from the sample.

We model the detection limit of the KO5 observations using the analysis presented in KO6, who describe these in detail. We study the 50% detection limit (in terms of the magnitude difference $\Delta K_S \equiv K_2 - K_1$) and find its dependence on angular separation and Strehl ratio (SR). We parametrize the dependence of the detection limit $\Delta K_{S, \text{det}}(\rho)$ in magnitudes on Strehl ratio (SR) as

$$\Delta K_{S, \text{det}}(\rho) = \begin{cases} 0 & \rho < \rho_{\text{lim}, A} \\ (22.0 - 3.75 s(\text{SR})) (\rho - 0.1'') & \rho_{\text{lim}, A} \leq \rho < 0.5'' \\ 8.8 + s(\text{SR}) (\rho - 2'') & 0.5'' \leq \rho < 2'' \\ 8.8 & 2'' \leq \rho, \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

where $\rho_{\text{lim}, A} = 0.2''$ is the angular resolution of the KO5 observations. Following the properties of the KO5 observations, we model $s(\text{SR})$ with

$$s(\text{SR}) = 2.54 - 3.85 \times \text{SR}. \quad (5)$$

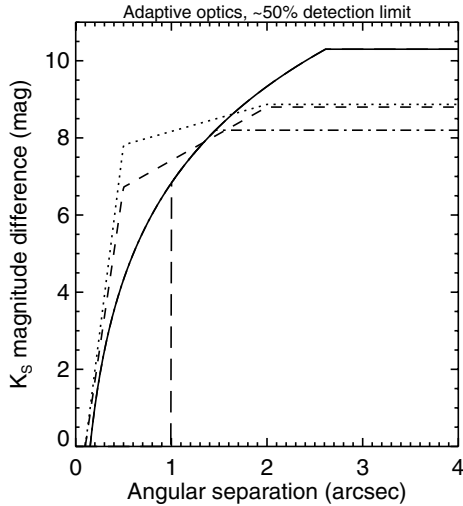


Fig. 3. The 50% detection limit ΔK_S as a function of angular separation ρ , for the KO5 observations (short-dashed curve), the KO6 observations (dotted curve), the non-coronagraphic SHT observations (dash-dotted curve), the coronagraphic SHT observations (long-dashed curve), and the combined SHT observations (solid curve). For the KO5 and KO6 observations the curves represent those for average Strehl ratios of 30% and 24%, respectively.

As an example we plot the detection limit $\Delta K_{S, \text{det}}(\rho)$ in Fig. 3 for observations with $\text{SR} = 30\%$. We simulate the distribution over SR by drawing for each target the SR randomly from the observed distribution $\tilde{f}_{\text{SR}}(\text{SR})$, which is approximated with

$$\tilde{f}_{\text{SR}}(\text{SR}) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{(\text{SR} - \mu_{\text{SR}})^2}{2\sigma_{\text{SR}}^2}\right) \quad 5\% < \text{SR} < 50\%, \quad (6)$$

where $\mu_{\text{SR}} = 30\%$ and $\sigma_{\text{SR}} = 5\%$.

KO5 considered only the secondaries with $K_S \leq 12$ mag as physical companions. The follow-up study of KO6 has shown that this $K_S = 12$ criterion indeed correctly classifies most of the companions and background stars. We therefore identify in our simulated observations only the companions with $K_S \leq 12$ mag as true companions.

Each measurement is assigned a detection probability $D_A(\rho)$ as a function of angular separation ρ . This detection probability refers solely to whether or not a companion is projected into the field of view. As the field of view is not circular, the detection probability of a companion is a function of angular separation. For ADONIS we have a square field of view sized $12.76'' \times 12.76''$. KO5 observed each target four times, each time with the target in another quadrant of the field of view, so that the effective field of view is $L_A = \frac{3}{2} \cdot 12.76'' = 19.14''$. The probability D_A that a secondary with an angular separation ρ is in the field-of-view is then given by:

$$D_A(\rho) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } \rho < L_A/2 \\ 1 - (4/\pi) \arccos(L_A/2\rho) & \text{for } L_A/2 \leq \rho < L_A/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 & \text{for } L_A/\sqrt{2} \leq \rho, \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

which is visualized in Fig. 4.

4.2. KO6 – Kouwenhoven et al. (2007) observations

The results of the ADONIS binarity survey performed by KO5 raised several questions, in particular on the absence of faint secondaries in the $1''$ – $4''$ separation range, and on the validity of the $K_S = 12$ criterion that KO5 used to separate secondaries into

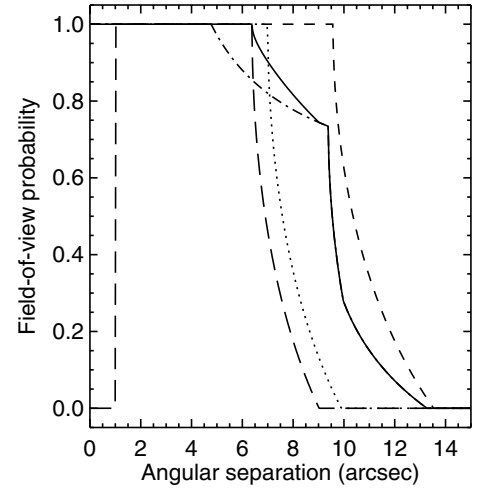


Fig. 4. In the three imaging surveys for binarity discussed in this paper (KO5, KO6, and SHT) the field-of-view is non-circular. Whether a secondary is in the field of view, depends therefore not only on its separation ρ , but also on its position angle φ . This figure shows the probability that a secondary is in the field-of-view, as a function of ρ , assuming random orientation of the binary systems, for the KO5 observations (short-dashed curve), the KO6 observations (dotted curve), the non-coronagraphic SHT observations (dash-dotted curve), the coronagraphic SHT observations (long-dashed curve), and the combined SHT observations (solid curve). Whether a secondary is detected or not, depends additionally on its brightness and on the brightness difference with the primary (see Fig. 3).

companion stars and background stars. Although SHT and KO5 argue that the latter criterion statistically classifies the background stars correctly, the correct classification of the companion stars with $K_S \approx 12$ mag was still uncertain. To address this issue, KO6 performed follow-up multi-colour JHK_S observations of a subset of the ADONIS targets. With multi-colour observations, each secondary can be placed in the colour-magnitude diagram, and compared with the isochrone of the Sco OB2 subgroups. Companion stars are expected to be near the isochrone, while background stars are (generally) expected to be far from the isochrone.

The observations described in KO6 were carried out with the adaptive optics instrument NAOS-CONICA (NACO), mounted on the ESO Very Large Telescope on Paranal, Chile. A subset of 22 (out of 199) KO5 targets were selected for follow-up observations. The subset was not randomly selected, but preference was given to faint and close background stars, to secondaries with $K_S \approx 12$ mag, and to newly discovered candidate companions. KO6 analyzed the JHK_S observations of these 22 stars observed with NACO, including the multi-colour ADONIS observations of 9 targets. With their observations KO6 found three new close companions (of HIP 63204, HIP 73937, and HIP 79771) that were unresolved in the survey of KO5.

4.2.1. Treatment of the KO6 dataset

For our analysis we consider all 22 targets observed by KO6, all of which are confirmed members of Sco OB2. The 9 ADONIS targets that were also studied in KO6 are not considered here, simply because they were not observed in the campaign of KO6. Around the 22 NACO targets KO6 find 62 secondaries, of which they classify 18 as confirmed companions (c), 11 as possible companions (?), and 33 as background stars (b).

In our analysis we use the data for 15 (out of 18) confirmed companions, and 5 (out of 8) candidate companions. Both HIP 68532 and HIP 69113 have a tight “double companion”. We treat each of these as a single companion, by combining the separation and mass of the individual companions (see Sect. 4.1.1). The targets HIP 67260, HIP 79771, and HIP 81949 all have three (candidate) companions, for which we only include the inner companion in our analysis. We do not include the very faint secondary of HIP 80142, as this is likely a background star. For HIP 81972 we only include the companion HIP 81972-3, which is by far the most massive companion, in our analysis.

The final KO6 dataset used in this paper consists of 22 targets with 18 companions. Note that when this dataset is compared with simulated observations, a discrepancy may be present, as the sample was composed to study candidate companions and background stars with particular properties. In Table A.2 we list the properties of the binaries used for comparison with simulated observations.

4.2.2. Modeling the observational bias of KO6

A subset of $22/199 = 11\%$ of the targets in the KO5 sample are observed with NACO by KO6. We model the KO6 sample by randomly drawing 11% of the targets in the simulated KO5 target sample. Note that in reality, the subset was not random (see above); instead, the targets were selected based on the properties of their secondaries. The simulated KO6 observations therefore cannot be directly compared with the results of the KO6 observations. However, they can be used to find the expected number of close and/or faint companions with KO6; companions that could not be found with the KO5 survey.

We use the 50% detection limit from the analysis presented in KO6, and parameterize it with the Strehl ratio (SR) of the observations. The 50% detection limit as a function of ρ , for targets with a different brightness is derived using simulations (Kouwenhoven et al. 2007, Sect. 3). From the observational data we derive a detection limit $\Delta K_{S,\text{det}}(\rho)$ in magnitude, consisting of four line segments:

$$\Delta K_{S,\text{det}}(\rho) = \begin{cases} 0 & \rho < \rho_{\text{lim},N} \\ (2.5 B(\text{SR}) - 2.63) (\rho - 0.1'') & \rho_{\text{lim},N} \leq \rho < 0.5'' \\ B(\text{SR}) + 0.70 (\rho - 2'') & 0.5'' \leq \rho < 2'' \\ B(\text{SR}) & \rho \geq 2'', \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

where $\rho_{\text{lim},N} = 0.1''$ is the angular resolution of the KO6 observations and

$$B(\text{SR}) = 6.86 + 8.37 \times \text{SR} \quad (9)$$

is the magnitude difference of the faintest detectable source, for a given Strehl ratio SR. As an example we show the detection limit $\Delta K_{S,\text{det}}(\rho)$ in Fig. 3 for observations with SR = 24%. We simulate the distribution over SR by drawing for each target the SR randomly from the observed distribution $\tilde{f}_{\text{SR}}(\text{SR})$, which we approximate with Eq. (6), with $\mu_{\text{SR}} = 24\%$ and $\sigma_{\text{SR}} = 7\%$. The field of view for the observations of KO6 is $14'' \times 14''$. As the field of view is non-circular, the detection limit is a function of both angular separation ρ and position angle φ . For our simulated observations, each measurement is assigned a detection probability $D_N(\rho)$ as a function of angular separation ρ , given by

$$D_N(\rho) = \begin{cases} 1 & \rho < L_N/2 \\ 1 - (4/\pi) \arccos(L_N/2\rho) & L_N/2 < \rho < L_N/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 & L_N/\sqrt{2} < \rho, \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

where $L_N = 14''$ is the linear size of the field-of-view.

4.3. SHT – Shatsky & Tokovinin (2002) observations

Shatsky & Tokovinin (2002) performed an imaging survey for binarity among 115 B type stars in the Sco OB2 region. Their observations were carried out in 2000 with the near-infrared adaptive optics instrument ADONIS at the ESO 3.6 meter telescope on La Silla, Chile. Their sample is based on the study of Brown & Verschueren (1997); see Sect. 4.5. Among the 115 B-type stars surveyed by SHT, 87 are confirmed members of Sco OB2 according to de Zeeuw et al. (1999). Among the total sample of these 115 stars SHT find 96 secondaries in the angular separation range $0.3''$ – $6.4''$, of which they identify 10 as new physical companions. The authors conclude that the mass ratio distribution $f_q(q)$ for B-type stars in Sco OB2 is consistent with $f_q(q) \propto q^{-0.5}$, and that random pairing can be excluded.

4.3.1. Treatment of the SHT dataset

Near the 87 confirmed members of Sco OB2 targeted by SHT, 80 secondaries are found, of which 61 likely optical and 19 likely physical companions. Of this set of 19 physical companions, we use a subset of 17 for our analysis. The target HD 132200 is probably a physical triple system. As we consider in this paper only single and binary systems, we do not include the widest and faintest component of HD 132200, and retain the component with $\rho = 0.128''$ and $K_S = 5.46$ mag. The secondary HD 133937P is incorrectly reported in SHT. For this secondary $\rho = 0.57''$ and $J - K_S = 2.06$ mag (N. Shatsky & A. Tokovinin, private communication). Due to its large $J - K_S$ value, and as $J > 13$ mag, this secondary is likely a background star. We therefore do not consider HD 133937P in our analysis.

Several targets were not included in the observed sample of SHT. These targets were known to have close companions and thus not suitable for wavefront sensing. These unobserved targets were included in the analysis of SHT though. Seven of these (HIP 53701, HIP 57851, HIP 62322, HIP 64425, HIP 74117, HIP 76371, and HIP 77840) are confirmed members of Sco OB2. We include these non-observed targets in our analysis, either as single or as a binary system, depending on whether their companions would have been detected with the SHT observing strategy. Technically, the non-inclusion of a set of stars falls under the “observer’s choice”. The latter constraint is difficult to model, as it would involve modeling of pre-SHT observations of close binaries, as well as the determination whether or not such a binary is suitable for wavefront sensing. We choose, however, to manually add these stars to the list of observed targets, as the properties of these stars and their companions are well-understood (making detailed models of the observer’s choice redundant). Note that non-inclusion of these unobserved stars introduces a small bias, as these stars would have been surveyed by SHT if their companions were unknown at that time. The member stars HIP 57851, HIP 62322, HIP 74117, HIP 76371, and HIP 77840 were reported as visually resolved (C)-binaries in the *Hipparcos* catalogue. We use the angular separation and magnitude of these components as given in the catalogue, and include the stars in the sample. HIP 64425 is a known triple system (Tokovinin 1997) for which we use the massive inner binary in our analysis. We treat the non-observed star HIP 53701 as a single star, as KO6 have shown that its secondary is a background star.

For the stars observed by SHT, we derive the mass of target and companion star from the K_S magnitude, using the evolutionary models described in Sect. 3. For the stars that are analysed by SHT, but not observed by these authors (see above), we derive the mass using the V band magnitude and *Hipparcos* H_p

magnitude. For each star we adopt the distance given by the *Hipparcos* parallax and the age of the subgroup of which the target is a member (Table 1).

The final dataset from the SHT survey that we use in our analysis of the binary population in Sco OB2 comprises 87 targets with 23 physical companions. The properties of these 23 companions are listed in Table A.3.

4.3.2. Modeling the observational bias of SHT

We require that all targets are confirmed *Hipparcos* members of Sco OB2, and so first impose the *Hipparcos* detection limit on the simulated association. We model the brightness constraint of the SHT observations by adopting a minimum mass of $3.5 M_{\odot}$, and a minimum brightness of $V = 7$ mag for the targets.

SHT show the typical detection limit of their observations in their Fig. 3. The detection limit is obviously different for the observations with and without the coronagraph. The observations with coronagraph are deeper, and the observations without the coronagraph provide a larger range in angular separation. A companion star is detected if it is observed *either* in the coronagraphic mode *or* in the non-coronagraphic mode.

In the non-coronagraphic observations, each companion is assigned a detection probability $D_{\text{NC}}(\rho)$ as a function of its separation ρ . In the non-coronagraphic observations, SHT observed each target twice in the non-coronagraphic mode, both times with the target in a quadrant of the detector. Due to the square shape of the detector, and due to the observing strategy, the position angle is of importance to whether a companion at separation ρ is in the field-of-view. We model this dependence by assigning a probability $D_{\text{NC}}(\rho)$ that a companion is in the field of view, depending on ρ . For a square field-of-view of a detector with linear size L , and a separation K between the two observations (along the diagonal of the field-of-view), the probability is given by

$$D_{\text{NC}}(\rho) = \begin{cases} 1 & \rho < r_1 \\ \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin\left(\frac{r_1}{\rho}\right) & r_1 < r_2/\sqrt{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin\left(\frac{r_1}{\rho}\right) - \frac{4}{\pi} \arccos\left(\frac{r_2}{\rho}\right) & r_2/\sqrt{2} < \rho < r_3 \\ \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{\pi} \arccos\left(\frac{r_2}{\rho}\right) & r_3 < \rho < r_2 \\ 0 & r_2 < \rho, \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

where

$$r_1 = \frac{1}{2}L\sqrt{2} - \frac{1}{2}K, \quad r_2 = \frac{1}{2}L\sqrt{2} + \frac{1}{2}K, \quad r_3 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(r_1^2 + r_2^2)}. \quad (12)$$

For the non-coronagraphic observations of SHT, the linear dimension of the detector is $L = 12.76''$, and the translation along the diagonal of the field of view is $K = 8.5''$ (see Fig. 1 in SHT, for details). We model the detection limit of the observations *without* the coronagraph with

$$\Delta K_{\text{S, det}} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } \rho < \rho_{\text{lim, s}} \\ 8.32 \log \rho + 6.83 & \text{for } \rho_{\text{lim, s}} \leq \rho < 1.46'' \\ 8.2 & \text{for } \rho \geq 1.46'', \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

where $\rho_{\text{lim, s}} = 0.1''$ is the angular resolution of the SHT observations (based on Fig. 3 in SHT).

SHT additionally observe each target using the coronagraph. They do not perform their coronagraphic observations in mosaic-mode; only one pointing is used. Each measurement is

therefore assigned a detection probability $D_{\text{C}}(\rho)$ as a function of angular separation ρ , given by

$$D_{\text{C}}(\rho) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } \rho < d_{\text{C}} \\ 1 & \text{for } d_{\text{C}} < \rho < L/2 \\ 1 - \frac{4}{\pi} \arccos\left(\frac{L}{2\rho}\right) & \text{for } L/2 < \rho < L/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 & \text{for } L/\sqrt{2} < \rho, \end{cases} \quad (14)$$

where $L = 12.76''$ and $d_{\text{C}} = 1''$ is the radius of the coronagraph. Based on Fig. 3 in SHT, we model the detection limit of the observations *with* the coronagraph with

$$\Delta K_{\text{S, det}} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } \rho < d_{\text{C}} \\ 8.32 \log \rho + 6.83 & \text{for } d_{\text{C}} \leq \rho < 2.62'' \\ 10.3 & \text{for } \rho \geq 2.62''. \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

Finally, we combine the simulated observations in coronagraphic and non-coronagraphic mode. We consider a binary system as detected, if it is observed in at least one of the two modes.

SHT additionally studied the background star population in the Sco OB2 region. Due to the large number of background stars, it is likely that a very faint or red secondary is a background star. SHT classify a secondary as a background star if $J > 13$ mag, if $K_{\text{S}} > 12$ mag, or if $J - K_{\text{S}} > 1.7$ mag (unless the secondary is a known companion). In our model for the selection effects, we adopt these limits in magnitude and colour when obtaining the simulated observations.

4.4. LEV – Levato et al. (1987) observations

Levato et al. (1987) performed a large radial velocity survey for binarity among early-type stars in the Sco OB2 region. They performed their observations in May 1974 with the 0.9 m and 1.5 m CTIO telescopes, and in 1976 with the 2.1 m telescope at KPNO. Their sample consists of 81 candidate members of Sco OB2, and is based on that of Slettebak (1968) who composed a list of suspected Sco OB2 members for a study on stellar rotation. All except 4 of the 82 targets of Slettebak (1968), and 3 additional targets were observed by LEV. The spectral type of the observed targets ranges from B0 V to A0 V. The targets in the sample have $2.5 \text{ mag} < V < 8.1 \text{ mag}$.

On average, each star is observed over an interval of $\langle T \rangle = 2.74$ year, with a spread of $\sigma_T = 0.68$ year. Each target is observed 5–12 times, with an average observing interval $\langle \Delta T \rangle = 0.38$ year and a corresponding spread of $\sigma_{\Delta T} = 0.14$ year. For each target LEV list the internal error in the radial velocity measurements. Averaged over all targets, this error is $\langle \epsilon_{\text{RV}} \rangle = 3.1 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, with a spread of 1.0 km s^{-1} ; approximately 90% of the targets have $\epsilon_{\text{RV}} > 2 \text{ km s}^{-1}$.

In their Table 3 LEV list their conclusions on binarity. Of the 53 confirmed members of Sco OB2 that they observed, 14 have a constant radial velocity (within the measurement errors), 23 have a variable radial velocity (RVV), 8 are SB1, and 8 are SB2. Given these observations, the spectroscopic binary fraction is *at least* $(8 + 8)/53 = 30\%$, in the case that all RVVs are spurious. If all reported RVV targets are indeed binaries, the observed spectroscopic binary fraction is $(8 + 8 + 23)/53 = 74\%$. The observed spectroscopic binary fraction is a lower limit for F_M , as binaries that are unresolved in the survey of LEV (e.g. visual binaries) are not included in these statistics.

4.4.1. Treatment of the LEV dataset

For the comparison between the observational data and the simulated observations, we only consider the 53 confirmed members

(according to de Zeeuw et al. 1999) of Sco OB2 that LEV observed. In their Tables 3 and 4, LEV include the star HIP 76945 (HD 140008), a confirmed member of the UCL subgroup. LEV did not observe this SB2, but take the orbital elements from Thackeray & Hutchings (1965). Our simulations indicate that the radial velocity variability of a binary with properties such as those of HIP 76945 would practically always be detected in a survey similar to that of LEV. It is unclear, however, whether LEV would have been able to derive the orbital elements for this binary, i.e., if they would have detected it as an SB1 or SB2. We include HIP 76945 as an SB2 in the dataset, as Thackeray & Hutchings (1965) were able to derive the orbital elements several decades before the study of LEV. For a subset of the targets LEV derive the orbital elements. In their Table 4, LEV list the elements of 22 targets, of which 16 are confirmed members of Sco OB2. In Table A.4 we list the properties of these 16 SB1 and SB2 systems from the LEV dataset that are confirmed members of Sco OB2. We also list the 23 radial velocity variables (RVVs), for which the orbital elements are unavailable. The LEV dataset consists of 53 targets, of which $16 + 23 = 39$ are detected as binary systems.

4.4.2. Modeling the observational bias of LEV

In this paper we consider only the confirmed *Hipparcos* members of Sco OB2, i.e., first impose the *Hipparcos* detection limit on the association. We model the choice of the sample of LEV by removing all binary systems with a combined magnitude fainter than $V = 8.1$ mag from the simulated observations.

We model the instrument bias of LEV using windowed sampling (SB-W; see Kouwenhoven 2006). Briefly summarized; in order to compare the model predictions with the observations, we simulate the detection of the spectroscopic binaries in our models as follows. We obtain radial velocity measurements of all binary systems in the simulated association, at regular intervals ΔT for a time-span T (windowed sampling). We assume a value for the measurement error ϵ_{RV} , which is constant over the time of observations. If the radial velocity measurements show a spread significantly larger than the error, the binarity is detected. For each single star and binary system we test the hypothesis that the observed velocity measurements $\{v_i\}$ result from a constant velocity. We calculate the χ^2 of the set of N_v radial velocity measurements:

$$\chi^2 = \sum_i \frac{(v_i - \bar{v})^2}{\epsilon_{RV}^2}, \quad (16)$$

where \bar{v} is the mean of the measurements $\{v_i\}$. We then calculate the probability p that χ^2 is drawn from the χ^2 -distribution:

$$p = 1 - \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\nu, \frac{1}{2}\chi^2\right), \quad (17)$$

where $\nu = N_v - 1$ is the number of degrees of freedom. High values ($p \approx 1$) indicate that our hypothesis (that the radial velocity is constant) is true, and that the measurements are likely the result of statistical noise. Values of p close to zero indicate that the observed variations in the radial velocity are real. We classify objects with radial velocity sets with $p \leq 0.0027$ (corresponding to the 3σ confidence level) as binary systems, while the other targets are marked as single stars. In our modeling of spectroscopic binaries we thus only determine whether a binary is detected or not; we do not discriminate between spectroscopic binaries of type SB1, SB2 or RVV. Modeling the latter difference

is sophisticated and depends on a significant number of parameters. For example, the Nyquist theorem requires that at least two measurements should be obtained per orbital period. Additional constraints are imposed by the properties of the binary system: the spectral type of the star (in particular the number of spectral lines), the brightness of the system, and the values of the radial velocity amplitude K_1 (relative to ϵ_{RV}), the eccentricity e and the argument of periastron ω . It is not trivial to model these.

In our model for the LEV observations we use windowed sampling, adopting an observing run of $T = 2.74$ year, an observing interval $\Delta T = 0.38$ year, and a radial velocity accuracy of $\epsilon_{RV} = 3.1 \text{ km s}^{-1}$. The latter assumption is a simplification, as the value of ϵ_{RV} is slightly different for each observation in the LEV dataset (with a spread of $\sim 1 \text{ km s}^{-1}$). A star is more easily detected if $\epsilon_{RV} < 3.1 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, and less easy if ϵ_{RV} is larger. Our simulations show, however, that our assumption of a constant ϵ_{RV} introduces an error significantly smaller than the error introduced by low-number statistics, justifying our assumption.

4.5. BRV – Brown & Verschueren (1997) observations

Brown & Verschueren (1997) studied stellar rotation among members of the Sco OB2 association. The observations were carried out between 1991 and 1993 using the ECHELEC spectrograph at the ESO 1.52 m telescope on La Silla, Chile. The sample of BRV contains the pre-*Hipparcos* candidate and established members of Sco OB2, based on the studies of Blaauw (1964), Bertiau (1958), and de Geus et al. (1989). The observations and data reduction procedure are described in detail in Verschueren et al. (1997), and the results on duplicity are described in Verschueren et al. (1996) and Brown & Verschueren (1997). Their sample consists of 156 targets in the Sco OB2 region, mostly of spectral type B. They find that $\sim 60\%$ of the binary systems exhibit a significant radial velocity variation. After combination of their data with those of LEV and those of the Bright Star Catalogue (Hoffleit & Jaschek 1982; Hoffleit et al. 1983), they obtain a binary fraction of 74%.

4.5.1. Treatment of the BRV dataset

Among the 156 observed targets there are 71 confirmed members of Sco OB2 (18 in US, 30 in UCL, and 23 in LCC). Among these 71 targets, 7 are SB1, 10 are SB2, 30 are RVV, and 12 have a constant radial velocity (CON). For 12 targets, insufficient measurements are available to make a statement about the radial velocity variation.

Two out of the 30 RVV binaries are known to exhibit radial velocity variation due to line profile variability. HD 120324 is a non-radial pulsator and HD 136298 is a β Cephei variable. For both stars, this is likely the reason that they are classified as RVV. These stars are therefore not considered as binary systems in our analysis.

The final BRV dataset used in our analysis consists of 71 confirmed members. Of these targets, 12 are spectroscopically single, 7 are SB1, 10 are SB2, 28 are RVV, and 12 have insufficient data to determine whether the radial velocity is variable. The binary fraction is thus *at least* $(7 + 10)/71 \approx 24\%$, if *none* of the RVV and CON targets are binary, and $(71 - 12)/71 = 83\%$ if *all* RVV and CON targets are binary. Among the target stars with sufficient data to make a statement on duplicity (i.e., without the 12 CON targets included), the observed binary fraction is $17/59 = 28\%$ at least and $45/59 = 76\%$ at most.

Table 5. Candidate and confirmed astrometric binaries in the *Hipparcos* catalogue. For each subgroup we list the number N_* of known members, the number of stochastic (X); orbital (O); acceleration (G); component (C); and suspected (S) binaries in the *Hipparcos* catalogue. For each (S) binary we list between brackets how many of these are also (X)-flagged. The last three columns list the “astrometric binary fraction” – including the (X), (O), (G) binaries – without the (S) binaries and with the (S) binaries included, and the *Hipparcos* “visual” binary fraction, for the (C) binaries only. (V) binaries are not present in Sco OB2.

Subgroup	N_*	(X)	(O)	(G)	(C)	(S)	$\tilde{F}_{M,XOG}$	$\tilde{F}_{M,XOGS}$	$\tilde{F}_{M,C}$
US	120	1	0	4	15	8 (1)	$4.2 \pm 1.5\%$	$10.0 \pm 2.1\%$	$12.5 \pm 3.0\%$
UCL	221	0	1	9	36	7 (0)	$4.5 \pm 1.5\%$	$7.7 \pm 1.9\%$	$16.3 \pm 3.0\%$
LCC	180	2	0	6	28	11 (2)	$4.4 \pm 1.6\%$	$9.4 \pm 2.4\%$	$15.6 \pm 3.0\%$
Sco OB2	521	3	1	19	79	26 (3)	$4.4 \pm 1.0\%$	$8.8 \pm 1.4\%$	$15.2 \pm 1.8\%$

4.5.2. Modeling the observational bias of BRV

We model the choice of the BRV sample in a way similar as we did for the LEV dataset. Each target is observed three times over an interval of $T = 2.25$ year, so that $\Delta T = 0.75$ year. Following the reduction of the original data (Verschueren et al. 1996), we classify each target with a radial velocity variation larger than $3\epsilon_{RV} = 4.2 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ as a RVV (see Sect. 4.4.2).

4.6. HIP – Hipparcos observations

In the *Hipparcos* catalogue, the (possible) binary nature of a target is indicated in field H59 with the flags (X), (O), (G), (C), or (V), and in field H61 with the flag (S). For the targets with a (C) flag both stars in the binary system are resolved, but no orbital motion is detected. These systems are considered as visual (or optical) binaries. *Hipparcos* entries with an (X)-flag have a stochastic solution. These stars exhibit an apparent motion significantly larger than the statistical uncertainties, although no double star solution could be found. For entries with an (O)-flag, at least one of the orbital elements could be derived from the apparent motion. Entries with a (G)-flag show a significant acceleration in the apparent motion, but no solution could be found. These are likely long-period binaries. The (V)-flagged entries are variability-induced movers. For this group of binaries, the photocenter exhibits apparent motion due to variability of one of the components. Finally, (S)-flagged entries are suspected non-single stars. These targets are effectively single as observed by *Hipparcos* (ESA 1997, Sect. 2.1), although no convincing single-star astrometric model could be fit to the observations. Several of the (S) binaries are also (X)-flagged, indicating that these are likely non-single.

Among the 521 confirmed members of Sco OB2, 46 are candidate or confirmed astrometric binaries – i.e., those in the categories (X), (O), (G), and (S) – in the *Hipparcos* catalogue: 12 in US, 17 in UCL, and 17 in LCC. An additional 79 Sco OB2 members are classified as (C)-binaries; these are visually resolved binaries. Table 5 lists for the three subgroups of Sco OB2 the number of entries in each of the *Hipparcos* categories. As for the binaries in the category (C) no orbital motion is detected, we will consider this group as visual binaries. (V)-binaries are not present among the confirmed Sco OB2 members. HIP 78918 is the only member of Sco OB2 with an orbital solution (O). The three (X)-flagged members of Sco OB2 are also flagged as suspected non-single stars (S).

4.6.1. Treatment of the *Hipparcos* dataset

In our analysis we consider each target in the categories (X), (O), (G), and (C) in Table 5 as a binary system. Binarity among the stars in the (S) category (the “suspected non-single” targets)

is rather uncertain. We therefore compare our results with the *Hipparcos* data, with and without the suspected (S) binaries included. Note that not all targets in the category (X) are necessarily binary systems. For example, the flag (X) of HIP 80763 (α Sco) may be due to the extended nature of the star, which is surrounded by a dust-shell (Cruzalebes et al. 1998). This may induce photocentric motion that is not related to binarity.

4.6.2. Modeling the observational bias of *Hipparcos*

The observer’s choice and sample bias for the *Hipparcos* member list of Sco OB2 are discussed in Sect. 3.3; our adopted model to describe these biases is given in Eq. (3). The instrument bias for *Hipparcos* was described in detail in Lindegren et al. (1997) and is summarized in Table 6 (see Kouwenhoven 2006, for further details).

The binaries in category (C) are considered as visual binaries, as both components of such binaries are resolved, while no astrometric motion is detected. The detection of the (C)-binaries is modeled using the prescription in Table 6 and is then compared with the observations.

The binaries in the categories (X), (O), and (G) are considered as astrometric binaries, and are modeled using the prescriptions in Table 6. As we do not model the *Hipparcos* observations in detail, we are unable to accurately predict in which of these categories each *Hipparcos* target falls. The simple model that we adopt for the *Hipparcos* biases results in an overlap between the properties of the stars in these categories, and furthermore, we overpredict the number of stars observed in these categories. Lindegren et al. (1997) have analyzed the properties of the binary systems in each of the categories. But this does not mean that each binary system with these properties is observed as such. In our model we make the latter assumption, resulting in an overestimation of the number of binaries detected by *Hipparcos*, and an overlap between the modeled categories (O) and (G). We therefore combine the number of detected (X), (O), and (G) binaries in the simulated observations, and use the resulting astrometric binary fraction $\tilde{F}_{M,XOG}$ as an *upper limit* for the comparison with the observations.

We do not include stellar variability in our model, and are therefore unable to model the (V)-flagged binaries (field H59). We do not model the (S)-flagged binaries (field H61) either, as the determination whether a target is classified as such in the *Hipparcos* catalogue is based on an internal and external comparison performed by the two *Hipparcos* data reduction teams.

5. Recovering the pairing function and mass ratio distribution

In this and the following sections we discuss the determination of the binary population in Sco OB2 from observations. We

Table 6. A model for the instrument bias of the *Hipparcos* catalogue, based on the analysis of Lindegren et al. (1997). The binary systems satisfying the above constraints are resolved with *Hipparcos* in our models. For the comparison between the observations and the simulated observations, we consider two sets of *Hipparcos* binaries: the visual binaries and the astrometric binaries. No orbital motion is detected for the (C) binaries; these are visually resolved and therefore technically visual binaries. The *Hipparcos* astrometric binaries contain the targets with (X), (O), (G), and optionally (S) entries. No difference between the latter categories is made for the comparison with the astrometric binaries. Binary systems that do not satisfy the constraints listed in this table remain undetected in our simulated observations for *Hipparcos*. We do not model the (V)-binaries (variability-induced movers; VIMs) and (S)-binaries (suspected non-single stars). Note that in our model we *overpredict* the number of binaries in categories (X), (O), and (S), as not all binaries with the properties above are detected by *Hipparcos* as such.

Constraints on ρ and ΔH_p	Period constraints	Solution	Symbol	Elements
$2 \leq \langle \rho \rangle \leq 100$ mas or $\Delta H_p > 4$	$P \leq 0.1$ year	Stochastic	(X)	no
$2 \leq \langle \rho \rangle \leq 100$ mas or $\Delta H_p > 4$	$0.1 < P \leq 10$ year	Orbital	(O)	yes
$2 \leq \rho \leq 100$ mas or $\Delta H_p > 4$	$5 < P \leq 30$ year	Acceleration	(G)	no
$0.1 \leq \rho \leq 100$ arcsec and $\Delta H_p \leq 4$	$P > 30$ year	Resolved	(C)	no
Not modeled		Suspected	(S)	no
Not modeled		VIM	(V)	no

adopt the strategy described in Kouwenhoven (2006). First we derive the pairing function and mass ratio distribution in Sect. 5. We recover the semi-major axis, the period distribution and the binary fraction in Sect. 6, and the eccentricity distribution in Sect. 7. Finally, we present a discussion on the derived binary fraction and its associated error in Sect. 8.

Kouwenhoven (2006) discusses five possible ways of pairing the components of a binary system. These include random pairing (RP), primary-constrained random pairing (PCRP), and three variants of primary-constrained pairing (PCP-I, PCP-II, and PCP-III). For the models with random pairing the primary mass M_1 and companion mass M_2 are both drawn from the mass distribution. For PCRP both masses are drawn from the mass distribution, with the additional constraint that the companion mass is smaller than that of the primary. In the three PCP pairing models the primary mass is drawn from the mass distribution, and the companion mass is derived from the mass ratio $q \equiv M_2/M_1$ which is drawn from a distribution $f_q(q)$. The difference between the three PCP models lies in the treatment of the very low mass companions that are generated. Each of these five pairing functions result in a different binary population. Kouwenhoven (2006) has shown that for binary systems with intermediate mass primaries the pairing functions PCP-I, PCP-II, PCP-III practically give the same results. As we focus on intermediate mass binaries in this paper, we will therefore consider three pairing functions in our analysis: RP, PCRP, and PCP (where PCP represents either PCP-I, PCP-II, or PCP-III).

As shown by Kouwenhoven (2006) the mass ratio distribution $f_q(q)$ resulting from pairing function RP or PCRP depends strongly on the mass distribution $f_M(M)$, in particular on the shape of the mass distribution in the brown dwarf regime. The mass distribution for Sco OB2 is fairly well constrained (Eq. (2)), although the exact values of the parameters M_{\min} and M_β are as yet unknown. However, the mass distribution can still be used to rule out pairing functions RP and PCRP for Sco OB2, by considering the extreme values for M_{\min} and M_β .

Shatsky & Tokovinin (2002) and Kouwenhoven et al. (2005) have already shown that their observed mass ratio distribution is inconsistent with random pairing (RP). Below we show that both pairing functions RP and PCRP can be excluded based on their observations. The two free parameters in the mass distribution of Sco OB2 (Eq. (2)) are in the range $M_{\min} \lesssim 0.01 M_\odot$ and $0.1 M_\odot \lesssim M_\beta \lesssim 0.3 M_\odot$. The shape of the resulting mass ratio distribution for these pairing functions depends on the exact values of M_{\min} and M_β . Below we will show that even for the “most favourable” values of M_{\min} and M_β both RP and PCRP can be excluded.

The mass distribution in Eq. (2) results in a large number of low-mass stars. The probability to obtain a binary consisting of two intermediate or high-mass stars is small (e.g. Kouwenhoven 2006). We use this property of pairing functions RP and PCRP to show that these are inconsistent with the observations. Let Q denote the ratio between the number of binaries with mass ratio $q \geq 0.8$ and the number of targets N_{targets} :

$$Q = \frac{\# \text{ binaries with } q > 0.8}{N_{\text{targets}}}. \quad (18)$$

The value of Q increases with increasing M_{\min} and increasing M_β due to the smaller probability of drawing a low-mass object from the mass distribution. Furthermore, Q is proportional to the intrinsic binary fraction F_M . For pairing functions RP and PCRP, the largest value of Q is therefore reached if $M_{\min} \approx 0.01 M_\odot$, $M_\beta \approx 0.3 M_\odot$, and $F_M = 100\%$.

We simulate two associations with the latter properties (one with pairing function RP and one with PCRP) and extract the sample of KO5 using the constraints listed in Table 4. The resulting *intrinsic* values of Q for the KO5 sample are $Q_{\text{RP}} \approx Q_{\text{PCRP}} \approx 0.004\%$. These values are upper limits because of the adopted values for M_{\min} , M_β , and F_M . Also, the corresponding *observed* values \tilde{Q} of the simulated observations are significantly smaller due to the non-detection of very close and wide binaries, binaries with a high mass ratio, etc.

Among the 199 targets in the KO5 sample, 10 binary systems with $q \geq 0.8$ are detected. The observed fraction of binaries with $q > 0.8$ is therefore $\tilde{Q}_{\text{KO5}} = 5.0 \pm 1.6\%$. Due to selection effects KO5 have certainly missed several binaries with $q > 0.8$ at separations smaller than the spatial resolution, or outside the field of view, so that the true value is $Q_{\text{KO5}} > \tilde{Q}_{\text{KO5}} = 5.0 \pm 1.6\%$. As $Q_{\text{RP}} \ll \tilde{Q}_{\text{KO5}}$ and $Q_{\text{PCRP}} \ll \tilde{Q}_{\text{KO5}}$, both pairing functions RP and PCRP can thus be excluded with strong confidence.

The observations are consistent with pairing function PCP, which is characterized by a mass ratio distribution $f_q(q)$. The unknown slope α and the value M_β for the mass distribution (Eq. (2)) are now irrelevant, as the distribution over companion masses among intermediate mass stars is independent of α . The mass ratio distribution and binary fraction for high-mass and intermediate mass targets is the same for the three pairing functions (Kouwenhoven 2006). As we do not have detailed information on binarity among low-mass stars in Sco OB2, we cannot discriminate between PCP-I, PCP-II, and PCP-III. A detailed membership study for low-mass stars in Sco OB2, followed by a detailed binary study, is necessary to establish the difference. Kouwenhoven (2006) also shows that for the three PCP pairing

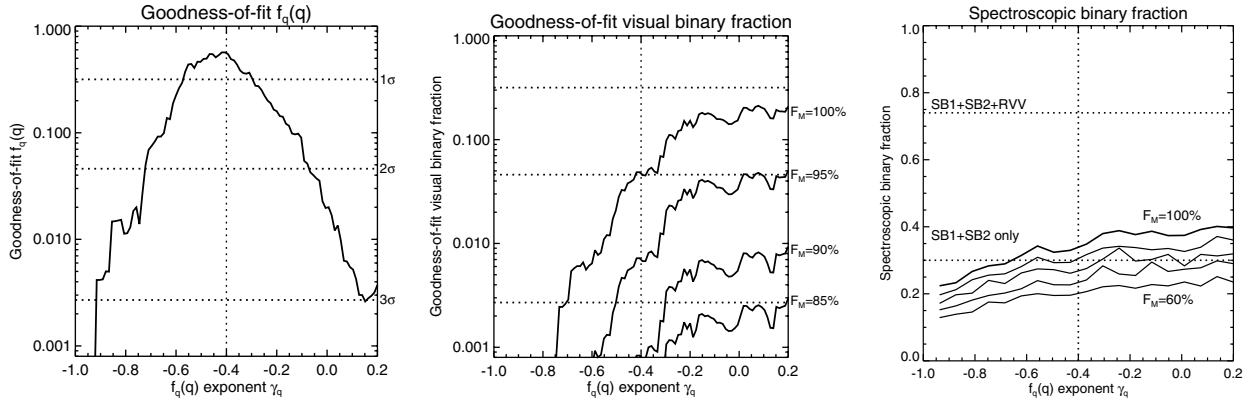


Fig. 5. How well can the intermediate-mass binary population in Sco OB2 be described by a mass ratio distribution of the form $f_q(q) \propto q^{\gamma_q}$? *Left:* the goodness-of-fit for the comparison between the observed mass ratio distribution (from the KO5 and SHT datasets) and that predicted by models with different values of γ_q . A large value for the goodness-of-fit means that the model predictions are consistent with the observations. The 1σ , 2σ and 3σ confidence limits for rejection of the model are indicated with the horizontal dotted lines. *Middle:* the goodness-of-fit for the comparison between the observed visual binary fraction (from the KO5 and SHT datasets) and that predicted by the models with an intrinsic binary fraction of 85% (bottom curve), 90%, 95% and 100% (top curve). *Right:* the predicted (SB1, SB2 and RVV) spectroscopic binary fraction (for the LEV dataset) as a function of γ_q . The five curves indicate the results for a model binary fraction of 60% (bottom curve), 70%, 80%, 90% and 100% (top curve). The bottom horizontal dotted line indicates the minimum observed spectroscopic binary fraction, where only the SB1s and SB2s are included, assuming that the radial velocity variations in all RVVs are caused by line-profile variability rather than binarity. The top horizontal line indicates the maximum spectroscopic binary fraction, assuming that *all* RVVs are indeed binaries. Taken together, the three panels indicate that the mass ratio distribution for intermediate mass stars in Sco OB2 can be described by $f_q(q) \propto q^{\gamma_q}$ with exponent $\gamma_q \approx -0.4$ (vertical dotted line in each panel). An intrinsic binary fraction close to 100% is required in order to produce the large visual and spectroscopic binary fractions that are observed. See Sect. 5 for a further discussion of this figure.

functions the mass ratio distribution for binaries with a high-mass primary is approximately equal to the generating mass ratio distribution $f_q(q)$ of an association.

The mass ratio distribution among intermediate mass stars in Sco OB2 was obtained by both KO5 and SHT. SHT find a mass ratio distribution of the form $f_q(q) \propto q^{\gamma_q}$ with $\gamma_q = -0.5$ in their B star survey, and KO5 find $\gamma_q = -0.33$ in their A and late-B star survey. Subsequently, we adopt a mass ratio distribution of the form $f_q(q) \propto q^{\gamma_q}$ and study for which value of γ_q the simulated observations correspond best to the observations of KO5 and SHT. We compare the observed mass ratio distribution $\tilde{f}_q(q)$ with that of the simulated observations using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov (KS) test, and we compare the observed binary fraction \tilde{F}_M with the predictions using the Pearson χ^2 test. In both cases, we test the hypothesis that the observations and simulated observations are realizations of the same underlying association model. All models have a semi-major axis distribution of the form $f_a(a) \propto a^{-1}$ with $0.5 R_\odot < a < 5 \times 10^6 R_\odot$ (see Sects. 6.1, 6.2, and 6.5, for a motivation) and a thermal eccentricity distribution $f_e(e) = 2e$ with $0 \leq e < 1$ (see Sect. 7, for a motivation). We perform our simulations with different intrinsic binary fractions, ranging from $F_M = 60\%$ to 100% .

Figure 5 shows the results of this comparison for models with a varying value of γ_q and a varying intrinsic binary fraction F_M . The left-hand panel shows the probability associated with the KS comparison between the observed $\tilde{f}_q(q)$ and that of the simulated observations. A small value for the goodness-of-fit means that the model can be excluded with high confidence. The three horizontal dotted lines indicate the 1σ , 2σ and 3σ confidence limits for rejection of the model, respectively. Models outside the range $-0.6 \lesssim \gamma_q \lesssim -0.3$ can be rejected with 1σ confidence. The best-fitting models have $\gamma_q \approx -0.4$ (vertical dotted line), which is the value we adopt for Sco OB2. However, γ_q is also constrained using the additional information provided by the observed visual and spectroscopic binary fraction.

The middle panel of Fig. 5 indicates how well the observed visual binary fraction for Sco OB2 compares with the

predictions of the models with different values of γ_q and F_M . Models with a small value of γ_q underpredict \tilde{F}_M . Most binaries have a small mass ratio in this case, making it more difficult to detect the companion star, and hence resulting in a lower visual binary fraction. Models with a $F_M < 95\%$ can be excluded with 2σ confidence or more, for any value of $\gamma_q < 0.2$ (under the condition that our assumptions hold).

The right-hand panel of Fig. 5 shows the predicted spectroscopic binary fraction as a function of γ_q and F_M . Note that, unlike the middle panel of Fig. 5, we do not show the goodness-of-fit between the observed and predicted spectroscopic binary fraction, as we only have lower and upper limits of the former (see below). More spectroscopic binaries are detected for models with a large γ_q , as the radial velocity amplitude increases with higher companion mass. The horizontal dotted lines in this panel indicate the limits for the observed spectroscopic binary fraction: $30\% \lesssim \tilde{F}_M \lesssim 74\%$ (with likely $\tilde{F}_M \approx 74\%$). For models with $\gamma_q \gtrsim -0.6$, the models with an intrinsic binary fraction $F_M \approx 100\%$ are most consistent with the observations. Note that the spectroscopic binary fraction as predicted by the models is rather small as compared to the observed spectroscopic binary fraction, even for an intrinsic binary fraction $F_M = 100\%$. This apparent underprediction is also present in the following sections, where we study different semi-major axis and period distribution, and may result from the presence of triple and higher-order systems among the members of Sco OB2. In Sect. 10.1 we will return to this issue.

A good model for Sco OB2 should correctly predict $\tilde{f}_q(q)$, the visual binary fraction and spectroscopic binary fraction. The distribution $\tilde{f}_\rho(\rho)$ suggests that $-0.6 \lesssim \gamma_q \lesssim -0.3$, with a best-fit for $\gamma_q \approx -0.4$, while the observed binary fractions are best fitted by models with a large value of γ_q . A combination of these data is not trivial, as it involves a choice for the relative weights given to each of the goodness-of-fits for each quantity. For example, if $\tilde{f}_\rho(\rho)$ and the visual binary fraction are given equal weight, the combined best-fitting value is $\gamma_q \approx -0.35$, while if $\tilde{f}_\rho(\rho)$ is

a ten times heavier weight, the combined best-fitting value is $\gamma_q \approx -0.41$. Inclusion of the spectroscopic binary fraction is not trivial, as we only have lower and upper limits for this quantity. An inspection of the three panels suggests that the mass ratio distribution can be well described by the expression $f_q(q) \propto q^{\gamma_q}$ with $\gamma_q \approx -0.4$. This value is bracketed by, and consistent with the values derived by KO5 and SHT. The comparison further indicates that the intrinsic binary fraction is larger than $\approx 95\%$, with 1σ confidence.

6. Recovering the semi-major axis distribution, the period distribution and the binary fraction

The orbital size distribution of a binary population can be quantified in several ways. Observers of visual binaries often express their results with a semi-major axis distribution $f_a(a)$, derived from the observed angular separation distribution. Observers of spectroscopic binary systems on the other hand, often express their results with an orbital period distribution $f_P(P)$, as the period of a spectroscopic binary can often be measured directly. Authors of theoretical/simulation papers mostly describe the orbital size distribution using the orbital energies (e.g. in units of kT). Over the past several decades, observational studies have brought forward two widely accepted distributions: a flat distribution in logarithmic semi-major axis, and a log-normal period distribution. In this section we compare these distributions with the observations. We wish to stress that the discussion of $f_a(a)$ and $f_P(P)$ should *nowhere* be taken to imply that a power-law distribution in a would result in a log-normal distribution in P .

The flat distribution in $\log a$, commonly known as Öpik's law, has been derived for a wide range of stellar populations (e.g., Öpik 1924; van Albada 1968; Vereshchagin et al. 1988; Poveda & Allen 2004), and is equivalent to

$$f_a(a) \propto a^{\gamma_a} \quad a_{\min} \leq a \leq a_{\max}, \quad (19)$$

with $\gamma_a = -1$. For a set of binaries of total mass M_T , this results in an orbital period distribution

$$f_P(P) \propto M_T^{(\gamma_a+1)/3} P^{(2\gamma_a-1)/3}, \quad (20)$$

which, in the case of $\gamma_a = -1$, is a flat distribution in $\log P$ (see Sect. 4.D in Kouwenhoven 2006). Throughout this paper we will consider the distribution $f_a(a)$ and study for which values of γ_a the models are consistent with the observations.

Duquennoy & Mayor (1991) studied binarity among solar-type stars in the solar neighbourhood and find a log-normal period distribution:

$$f_{\text{DM}}(P) \propto \exp\left\{-\frac{(\log P - \mu_P)^2}{2\sigma_P^2}\right\} \quad P_{\min} \leq P \leq P_{\max}, \quad (21)$$

here $\mu_P \equiv \overline{\log P} = 4.8$, $\sigma_P \equiv \sigma_{\log P} = 2.3$, and P is in days. The latter distribution is often used as the standard reference for the orbital size distribution of a binary population. This log-normal period distribution results in an approximately log-normal semi-major axis distribution, the shape of which is mildly dependent on the distribution over binary mass M_T . For a set of binaries of total mass M_T , the resulting semi-major axis distribution is exactly described by a log-normal distribution with mean and width

$$\overline{\log a} = \frac{2}{3} \overline{\log P} - \frac{1}{3} \log\left(\frac{4\pi^2}{GM_T}\right) \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_{\log a} = \frac{2}{3} \sigma_{\log P} \quad (22)$$

respectively, where a is in astronomical units (see Sect. 4.D in Kouwenhoven 2006). Throughout this paper we will consider the general form for the log-normal period distribution $f_{P;\mu,\sigma}(P)$, and study for which combination of μ and σ the models are consistent with the observations.

In our binarity dataset for Sco OB2, most information on the orbital size distribution is provided by the observed angular separation distribution $\tilde{f}_\rho(\rho)$, the observed visual binary fraction and the observed spectroscopic binary fraction. The latter two parameters are additionally linearly dependent on the intrinsic binary fraction F_M of Sco OB2, so we derive F_M simultaneously.

For the comparison of the observed angular separation distribution $\tilde{f}_\rho(\rho)$ we use the angular separation measurements of the combined observations of the KO5 and SHT datasets (see Sects. 4.1 and 4.3). The observed (visual) binary fraction \tilde{F}_M is $30 \pm 4\%$ for the KO5 dataset and $26 \pm 4\%$ for the SHT dataset. The visual binary fraction for the combined KO5/SHT dataset is $\tilde{F}_M = 31 \pm 4\%$ (taking into account the 23 targets that appear in both datasets, and their companions). We will use the latter value for comparison with the simulated observations. For the comparison between the observed spectroscopic binary fraction and the predictions we use the observations of LEV. The LEV sample (see Sect. 4.4) consists of 53 confirmed members of Sco OB2. Among these targets there are 8 SB1s, 8 SB2s, 23 RVVs, and 14 targets with a constant radial velocity (within the measurement errors). For the 23 RVVs it is unknown whether these are truly binary systems, as the radial velocity variations may also result from line profile variability. The true value for the observed spectroscopic binary fraction in the LEV dataset is thus in the range between $30 \pm 6\%$ and $74 \pm 6\%$, depending on how many of the RVVs are true binary systems. Note that it is unlikely that the majority of the observed RVVs are spurious binaries; the true spectroscopic binary fraction is likely close to 74%.

In this section we recover the orbital size distribution of binaries in Sco OB2, which can be described with either $f_a(a)$ or $f_P(P)$. We simultaneously determine the intrinsic binary fraction F_M . We determine the lower limits a_{\min} and P_{\min} in Sect. 6.1 and the upper limits a_{\max} and P_{\max} in Sect. 6.2. The best-fitting (power-law) semi-major axis distribution is discussed in Sect. 6.3, and the best-fitting (log-normal) period distribution in Sect. 6.4. A further discussion on the validity of the *independent* derivation of the orbital size distribution and $f_q(q)$ is presented in Sect. 6.5. Finally, we summarize our conclusions on the orbital size distribution and F_M in Sect. 6.6.

6.1. The minimum period and semi-major axis

The shortest period P_{\min} can in principle be constrained using observations of spectroscopic binaries. Table 7 lists the five known binaries in Sco OB2 with an orbital period less than two days. These data indicate that the minimum period P_{\min} is less than of order one day. Binary systems with an orbital period shorter than one day may be present in Sco OB2, but this orbital period is close to the physical minimum period, leading to Roche Lobe overflow. Only a very small fraction of systems is expected to have such a short orbital period, as stars in such binaries would have been in physical contact during their contraction phase.

For each short-period binary in Table 7 we have obtained an estimate for the semi-major axis, using Kepler's third law. We derive the absolute V -band magnitude from the observed V -band magnitude using the improved *Hipparcos* parallax and interstellar extinction for each star (de Bruijne 1999). We estimate a lower and upper mass limit for the primary star, assuming

Table 7. The five known binaries in Sco OB2 with an orbital period less than two days. Columns 1–3 list the primary star, the primary spectral type, and the measured orbital period. Columns 4 and 5 list the primary mass estimate as derived from the V -band magnitude, under the assumption that the mass ratio is $q \approx 0$ and $q = 1$, respectively. Columns 6 and 7 list extremes for the semi-major axis of the binary, as derived using Kepler’s third law, under the assumption of a mass ratio $q \approx 0$ (6th column), and $q = 1$ (7th column). Finally, Cols. 8 and 9 list the subgroup of which the binary is a member and the reference for the orbital period. It is possible that a small number of closer, yet undiscovered binaries exist in Sco OB2.

Member HIP	Spectral type	P day	$M_1 (M_\odot)$		$a (R_\odot)$		Subgroup	Reference
			($q \approx 0$)	($q = 1$)	($q \approx 0$)	($q = 1$)		
74449	B3 IV	0.90	5.2	4.0	6.8	7.8	UCL	Buscombe & Kennedy (1962)
77911	B9 V	1.26	3.5	2.2	7.5	8.0	US	Levato et al. (1987)
78265	B1 V	1.57	10.9	8.3	12.6	14.5	US	Levato et al. (1987)
74950	B9 IV	1.85	4.2	3.2	10.2	11.8	UCL	Andersen et al. (1993)
77858	B5 V	1.92	4.5	3.4	10.7	12.3	US	Levato et al. (1987)

that the mass ratio is either $q \approx 0$ or $q = 1$. As the mass ratio of each of these binaries is unknown, we show the corresponding inferred semi-major axis for the extremes $q \approx 0$ and $q = 1$. As the five short-period binary systems are all spectroscopic binaries, the value of the mass ratio is likely $q \gtrsim 0.5$. From the semi-major axis estimates in Table 7 we thus conclude that a_{\min} must be of order $10 R_\odot$ or smaller.

As a result of selection effects, the observations cannot be used to constrain P_{\min} and a_{\min} any further. However, physical arguments can be used to obtain estimates for the lower limits for P_{\min} and a_{\min} . The value of a_{\min} cannot be significantly smaller than the semi-major axis at which Roche lobe overflow occurs for one of the components of a binary system. One of the components of such a tight binary may fill its Roche Lobe if the binary separation a is less than about 2–3 times the radius of that star (see, e.g., Eggleton 1983; Hilditch 2001). Assuming zero eccentricity, the estimates for a_{\min} are of order 12, 4.0, 2.5 and $1.5 R_\odot$ for binaries with a primary of spectral type B0 V, A0 V, F0 V and G0 V, respectively. Adopting a typical mass ratio of $q \approx 0.3$, these correspond to minimum orbital periods of $P_{\min} = 25, 11, 8,$ and 6 h, respectively. In reality the latter values are larger due to the presence of eccentric binary systems in Sco OB2. A combination of these estimates indicates that $a_{\min} \gtrsim 2 R_\odot$ and $P_{\min} \gtrsim 12$ h. Binary systems with shorter orbital periods are known (see Sect. 2). Although several members of Sco OB2 may have evolved into such a tight systems (with $P \lesssim 12$ h), our conclusions on the *primordial* binary population will not be affected by this assumption. If these binaries are present, our inferred binary fraction (Sect. 8) may be mildly underestimated.

Using observations and physical limitations, we have constrained the values $2 R_\odot \lesssim a_{\min} \lesssim 10 R_\odot$ and $0.5 \text{ day} \lesssim P_{\min} \lesssim 1 \text{ day}$. Note that these are rather rough constraints. In Sect. 8 we will return to this issue when deriving the binary fraction of Sco OB2.

6.2. The maximum semi-major axis and period

It is difficult to characterize the properties of the widest orbits from observations due to confusion with background stars. However, observations of the widest binaries can be used to derive a lower limit for the maximum semi-major axis a_{\max} . Table 8 lists the known binaries in Sco OB2 with angular separation larger than $25''$. Under the assumption that these wide binary systems are all physically bound, we additionally list a first-order estimate for the semi-major axis $a_{\text{est}} \equiv D \tan \rho$, where D is the distance to the binary, and ρ the angular separation. Table 8 shows that the maximum semi-major axis is of order $2 \times 10^6 R_\odot$ or larger. Using Kepler’s third law we find that the orbital period of the binary systems listed in Table 8 is in the range between

Table 8. The widest known binary systems in Sco OB2. For each of these binary systems we list the angular separation, the *Hipparcos* parallax, an estimate for the semi-major axis $a_{\text{est}} \equiv D \tan \rho$, the subgroup, and the spectral type of the primary. The last column lists the reference. Note that this list must be incomplete, as very wide binaries are difficult to detect. Furthermore, several of these binaries may be optical due to confusion with background stars, i.e., not physically bound. References: (1) Lindroos (1985); (2) Worley (1978); (3) Worley & Douglass (1997); (4) Oblak (1978); (5) Tokovinin (1997).

Member HIP	ρ arcsec	π mas	a_{est} $10^6 R_\odot$	Group	SpT	Ref.
64004	25.1	7.92	0.68	LCC	B1.5V	1
71860	27.6	5.95	0.99	UCL	B1.5III	2
69113	28.6	4.57	1.34	UCL	B9V	1
75647	30.0	7.79	0.82	UCL	B5V	3
69749	30.2	4.07	1.59	UCL	B9IV	4
60320	32.4	9.71	0.71	LCC	Am	3
69618	33.9	6.71	1.08	UCL	B4Vne	3
77315	34.7	7.64	0.97	UCL	A0V	3
63003	34.8	8.64	0.86	LCC	B2IV-V	1
72192	35.3	7.72	0.98	UCL	A0V	1
78104	38.3	7.97	1.03	US	B2IV/V	3
72984	39.0	5.93	1.41	UCL	A0/A1V	3
79374	41.4	7.47	1.19	US	B2IV	5
83693	43.3	7.73	1.20	UCL	A2IV	3
80024	46.7	6.98	1.43	US	B9II/III	4
67472	48.0	6.19	1.66	UCL	B2IV/Ve	3
78265	49.2	7.10	1.48	US	B1V+B2V	3
64661	60.0	8.04	1.60	LCC	B8V	1
65271	60.0	9.20	1.40	LCC	B3V	5
78384	115.0	6.61	3.73	UCL	B2.5IV	5

~ 0.150 Myr and ~ 0.25 Myr (assuming a system mass of $5 M_\odot$ for each binary listed in Table 8).

A theoretical limit to the maximum semi-major axis a_{\max} is obtained from the argument of tidal disruption of binary systems. In the Galactic field the maximum observed semi-major axis is of the order of ~ 0.1 pc ($5 \times 10^6 R_\odot$ Bahcall et al. 1985; Close et al. 1990; Chanamé & Gould 2004). The analysis of Close et al. (1990) shows that $\sim 3\%$ of the Galactic disk binaries has a separation larger than 0.01 pc ($0.5 \times 10^6 R_\odot$). Binaries in the Galactic halo could be as wide as 1 pc due to the lower ambient stellar density (Chanamé & Gould 2004). The results of the wide binary searches and dynamical simulations above indicate that binary systems with a semi-major axis larger than a certain value a_{tidal} are unstable in the Galactic tidal field and are ionized quickly, and that $a_{\text{tidal}} \approx 0.2$ pc ($= 9 \times 10^6 R_\odot$).

OB associations are expanding groups and are likely unbound (Blaauw 1964; Brown et al. 1999), so that they will dissolve in the field star population within a few tens of Myr. If

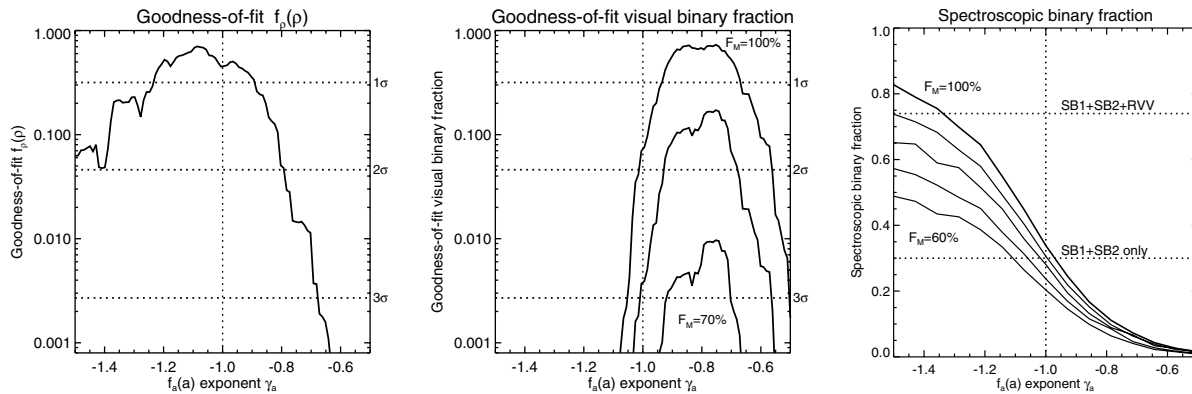


Fig. 6. How well can the intermediate-mass binary population in Sco OB2 be described by a semi-major axis distribution of the form $f_a(a) \propto a^{\gamma_a}$? *Left:* the goodness-of-fit for the comparison between the observed angular separation distribution (from the KO5 and SHT datasets) and that predicted by the models with different values of γ_a . A large value for the goodness-of-fit means that the model predictions are consistent with the observations. The 1σ , 2σ and 3σ confidence limits for rejection of the model are indicated with the horizontal dotted lines. *Middle:* the goodness-of-fit for the comparison between the observed visual binary fraction (from the KO5 and SHT datasets) and that predicted by the models with an intrinsic binary fraction of 70% (bottom curve), 80%, 90% and 100% (top curve). *Right:* the predicted (SB1, SB2 and RVV) spectroscopic binary fraction (for the LEV dataset) as a function of γ_a . The five curves indicate an intrinsic binary fraction of 60% (bottom curve), 70%, 80%, 90% and 100% (top curve). The bottom horizontal line indicates the lower limit for the observed spectroscopic binary fraction, where only the SB1s and SB2s are included, assuming that the radial velocity variations in *all* RVVs are caused by line-profile variability rather than binarity. The top horizontal line indicates the upper limit for the spectroscopic binary fraction, assuming that all RVVs are indeed binaries. A combination of the results in these three panels indicates that the semi-major axis distribution for intermediate mass stars in Sco OB2 can be described by $f_a(a) \propto a^{\gamma_a}$ with exponent $\gamma_a \approx -1.0$ (vertical dotted line in each panel), commonly known as Öpik’s law. An intrinsic binary fraction close to 100% is required in order to produce the large number of visual and spectroscopic binaries detected in Sco OB2.

Sco OB2 is indeed an expanding association, the association must have been denser in the past. The upper limit for the semi-major axis may therefore be smaller than a_{tidal} . For binary systems with a total mass of $5 M_{\odot}$, this tidal limit corresponds to ~ 4 Myr. Note that if such a binary system would exist in Upper Scorpius, it would have completed only one revolution since its birth. For lower-mass binaries, the period corresponding to $a = 0.2$ pc would be significantly larger.

The goal of our study is to find the primordial binary population, so that theories on star formation can be constrained with observations. For our purpose the exact value of a_{max} is not a parameter of crucial importance. Binary systems with a semi-major axis of order $a = 0.2$ pc have an orbital period larger than ~ 4 Myr. In the context of star formation, the components of these wide binaries may possibly be considered as single, as both stars may have formed practically independent from each other.

Combining the information above, we have constrained $2 \times 10^6 R_{\odot} \lesssim a_{\text{max}} \lesssim 8.9 \times 10^6 R_{\odot}$, or alternatively $0.15 \text{ Myr} \lesssim P_{\text{max}} \lesssim 4 \text{ Myr}$. In Sect. 8 we will return to this issue when deriving the binary fraction of Sco OB2.

6.3. A power-law semi-major axis distribution?

Now that the lower and upper limits for the semi-major axis and period distributions are constrained, it is possible to evaluate these distributions. We first study the possibility that the binary population is characterized by a semi-major axis distribution of the form $f_a(a) \propto a^{\gamma_a}$, and determine for which value of γ_a the simulated observations correspond best to the observations. We compare the observed angular separation distribution $\tilde{f}_{\rho}(\rho)$ with that of the simulated observations using the KS test, and we compare the observed visual and spectroscopic binary fractions with the predictions using the Pearson χ^2 test. In both cases, we test the hypothesis that the observations and simulations are realizations of the same underlying association model. In our models we adopt semi-major axis limits $5 R_{\odot} < a < 5 \times 10^6 R_{\odot}$, a thermal

eccentricity distribution $f_e(e) = 2e$ and a mass ratio distribution of the form $f_q(q) \propto q^{\gamma_q}$ with $\gamma_q = -0.4$. Later in this paper we will discuss the validity of these assumptions.

Figure 6 shows the results of this comparison for models with a varying value of γ_a . The left-hand panel shows the probability associated with the KS test when comparing the observed $\tilde{f}_{\rho}(\rho)$ and that of the simulated observations. The models with $-1.15 \lesssim \gamma_a \lesssim -0.90$ produce an observed angular separation distribution very similar to that of KO5/SHT, and consequently have a large goodness-of-fit value.

The middle panel shows the probability associated with the Pearson χ^2 test when comparing the observed visual binary fraction $\tilde{F}_M = 31 \pm 4\%$ and that of the simulated observations for models as a function of γ_a with varying intrinsic binary fraction F_M . Models with $-0.9 \lesssim \gamma_a \lesssim -0.6$ produce a visual binary fraction similar to that of the observations, but only if the intrinsic binary fraction is close to 100%.

The right-hand panel shows the predicted spectroscopic binary fraction (SB1, SB2 and RVV) as a function of γ_a and F_M . Note that, unlike the middle panel of Fig. 6, we do not show the goodness-of-fit between the observed and predicted spectroscopic binary fraction, as we only have lower and upper limits of the former (see below). The two horizontal dotted lines in the right-hand panel indicate the lower limit of $30 \pm 6\%$ (SB1 and SB2) and the “upper limit” of $74 \pm 6\%$ (SB1, SB2 and RVV) for the observed spectroscopic binary fraction \tilde{F}_M . The spectroscopic binary fraction increases with decreasing γ_a , as the average orbital separation decreases. Models with $\gamma_a \lesssim -1$ result in a spectroscopic binary fraction that is compatible with the observations. For models with $\gamma_a \approx -1$, an intrinsic binary fraction very close to 100% is required in order to reproduce the lower limit for the observed spectroscopic binary fraction.

Considering the results in all three panels of Fig. 6, we find that the semi-major axis distribution for intermediate mass stars in Sco OB2 is best described by $f_a(a) \propto a^{\gamma_a}$ with $\gamma_a \approx -1.0$. The observations are therefore reasonably consistent with models with Öpik’s law ($\gamma_a = -1$). Models with slightly smaller

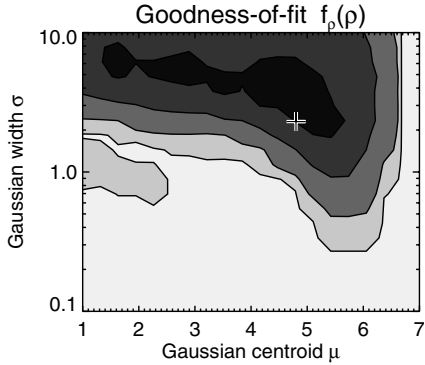


Fig. 7. How well does a model with a log-normal period distribution $f_{P,\mu,\sigma}(P)$ with centroid μ and width σ reproduce the observed angular separation distribution $\tilde{f}_\rho(\rho)$? The darkest colors in this figure indicate the best-fitting models. From dark to light, the contours indicate the $\frac{1}{3}\sigma$, 1σ , 2σ , and 3σ confidence limits for rejection of the model, respectively. The cross at $(\mu = 4.8, \sigma = 2.3)$ indicates the distribution derived by Duquennoy & Mayor (1991) for solar-type stars in the solar neighbourhood. The comparison with the observed visual and spectroscopic binary fraction is shown in Fig. 8.

values of γ_a correspond somewhat better to $\tilde{f}_\rho(\rho)$ and the spectroscopic binary fraction, while those with slightly larger values of γ_a correspond better to the observed visual binary fraction. The observed visual and spectroscopic binary fractions are only reproduced by models with an intrinsic binary fraction close to 100%.

6.4. A log-normal period distribution?

We also study the possibility that the binary population can be described with a log-normal period distribution (Eq. (21)) for a certain combination of μ and σ . We simulate associations with period distribution $f_{P,\mu,\sigma}(P)$ for various values of μ and σ , and compare simulated observations with the real observations. Again, we consider the observed angular separation distribution $\tilde{f}_\rho(\rho)$, the observed visual binary fraction and the observed spectroscopic binary fraction. The best-fitting log-normal distribution is obtained by combining the results in Figs. 7 and 8, which we describe below.

In Fig. 7 we compare the observed angular separation distribution $\tilde{f}_\rho(\rho)$ for models with varying values of μ and σ . The darkest regions in the figure indicate the best-fitting combinations of μ and σ . In general, the models with a large value for σ fit the observations well. These models have a very broad period distribution, resulting in a $f_a(a)$ that is very similar to Öpik’s law, which was shown to be consistent with the observations in Sect. 6.3. Models with a period distribution similar to that found by Duquennoy & Mayor (1991), i.e., $\mu \approx 4.8$ and $\sigma \approx 2.3$ are consistent with $\tilde{f}_\rho(\rho)$ as well. Models with $5 \lesssim \mu \lesssim 6$ are consistent with the observed distribution $\tilde{f}_\rho(\rho)$, as for these models the peak of $\log P$ falls in the visual binary regime. This results in an angular separation distribution similar to Öpik’s law. Figure 7 shows that most models with a large value of σ are consistent with the observed angular separation distribution. These models resemble those with Öpik’s law, which was shown to be consistent with the observations in the previous section. Of the models with a large σ , only those with extremely wide binary populations ($\mu \gtrsim 7$) produce an incompatible $\tilde{f}_\rho(\rho)$, as only the tail of the distribution then falls in the visual regime.

Figure 8 shows for the same set of models the results for the observed visual and spectroscopic binary fractions. The top panels show the goodness-of-fit of the visual binary fraction, for models with a different value of μ , σ , and for different intrinsic binary fractions F_M (indicated in the bottom-left corner of each panel). The darkest regions in each panel indicate the best-fitting combinations of μ and σ . The bottom panels show the observed spectroscopic binary fraction as a function of μ , σ and F_M , where the darkest regions correspond to the highest spectroscopic binary fraction. The lower limit ($30 \pm 6\%$) and “upper limit” ($74 \pm 6\%$) for the spectroscopic binary fraction in the LEV sample are indicated with the dotted and dashed contours, respectively. Any well-fitting model has a combination of μ and σ within these contours, preferably near the left-hand contour, as a significant number of the RVVs detected by LEV is likely to be a true binary. In each panel of Fig. 8 we indicate the values $(\mu, \sigma) = (4.8, 2.3)$ found by Duquennoy & Mayor (1991) for solar-type stars in the solar neighbourhood.

By comparing the top and bottom panels in Fig. 8 we find that the intrinsic binary fraction is larger than $\approx 70\%$, whatever the values of μ and σ are. Models with $F_M \approx 100\%$ are most consistent with the observations. The Duquennoy & Mayor (1991) period distribution with $(\mu, \sigma) = (4.8, 2.3)$ is consistent with the observed angular separation distribution and visual binary fraction, but underpredicts the number of spectroscopic binaries, even if the intrinsic binary fraction is 100%, and all RVVs detected by LEV are spurious. Similar models with a larger value for σ are consistent with the observations. However, these period distributions are very broad, making the binary population indistinguishable from that resulting from Öpik’s law.

6.5. The ambiguity in deriving the orbital size distribution and $f_q(q)$

In Sects. 5 and 6 we have constrained the orbital size distribution and the mass ratio distribution $f_q(q)$ independently. A risk associated with this approach is that one may find a *local*, rather than a *global* set of best-fitting solutions. In this section we demonstrate that our choice has been appropriate, and that we have indeed found the best-fitting model.

Even if the orbital size distribution and $f_q(q)$ are intrinsically independent, there could be a correlation between a (or P) and q among the detected binaries. The latter is important for the analysis of the results of a spectroscopic binary survey (e.g., Kobulnicky & Fryer 2006), but is of less importance for visual binaries. In a visual binary survey the orbital size is related to the angular separation ρ , and q is related to the brightness contrast between primary and companion. As the maximum detectable magnitude difference depends on the separation between the binary components, a correlation between the orbital size and q may be introduced among the closest detected companions.

In order to study whether we have indeed found the *global* set of best-fitting solutions, we extend the parameter space, and make comparisons for models with varying orbital size distribution and varying $f_q(q)$. We limit ourselves to mass ratio distributions of the form $f_q(q) \propto q^{\gamma_q}$. We compare the two-dimensional distribution $\tilde{f}_{\rho,q}(\rho, q)$ and the visual binary fraction \tilde{F}_M of the simulated observations of the combined KO5/SHT dataset with that of the observations. We compare the observed distribution $\tilde{f}_{\rho,q}(\rho, q)$ using the two-dimensional KS test (e.g., Press et al. 1992), and we compare the observed visual binary fraction using the Pearson χ^2 test.

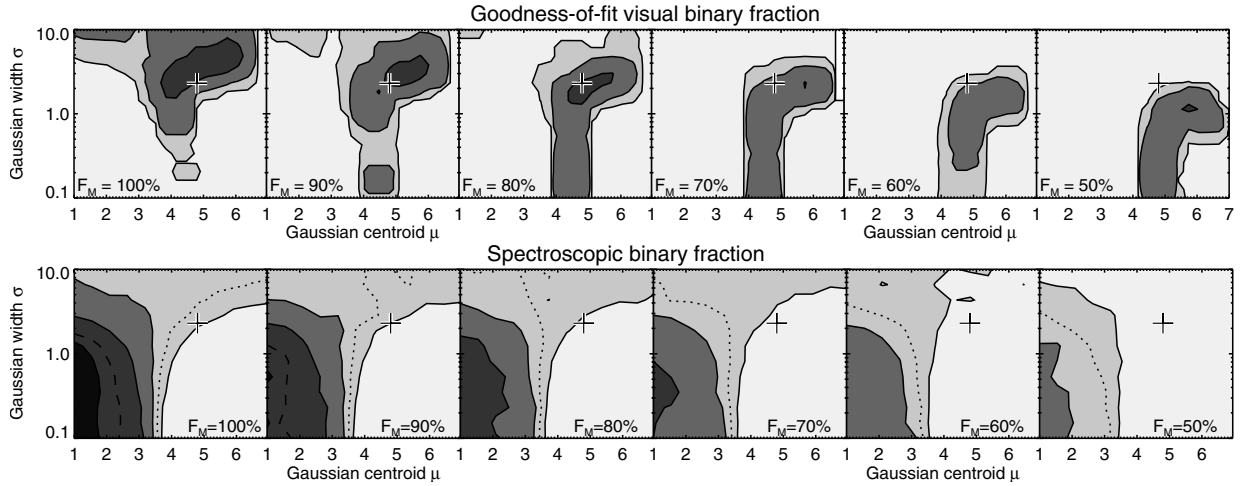


Fig. 8. How well does a log-normal period distribution with centroid μ and width σ reproduce the observed visual and spectroscopic binary fractions? *Top:* the goodness-of-fit for the comparison between the observed and predicted visual binary fraction, as a function of μ and σ . Each panel represents a set of models with a different intrinsic binary fraction ranging from $F_M = 100\%$ (left) to 50% (right). The darkest colors indicate the best-fitting models. From dark to light, the three contours indicate the 1σ , 2σ , and 3σ confidence limits for rejection of the model, respectively. The cross at $(\mu = 4.8, \sigma = 2.3)$ in each panel indicates the distribution derived by Duquennoy & Mayor (1991) for solar-type stars in the solar neighbourhood. *Bottom:* the predicted (SB1, SB2 and RVV) spectroscopic binary fraction as a function of μ , σ and F_M (note that these panels do *not* indicate the goodness-of-fit). The spectroscopic binary fraction is indicated with the gray-shade in each panel, where the solid contours indicate the combinations of μ and σ which predict a spectroscopic binary fraction (from black to white) of 80%, 60%, 40% and 20%, respectively. The other curves indicate the extreme constraints imposed by the observations, of $30 \pm 6\%$ (dashed contour) and $74 \pm 6\%$ (dotted contour), respectively, where the higher value is more likely to represent reality. This figure, combined with the $f_b(\rho)$ comparison of Fig. 7, shows that *if* the binary population can be described with a log-normal period distribution, we require (1) a binary fraction near 100%, and (2) a large value for σ (which mimics Öpik’s law).

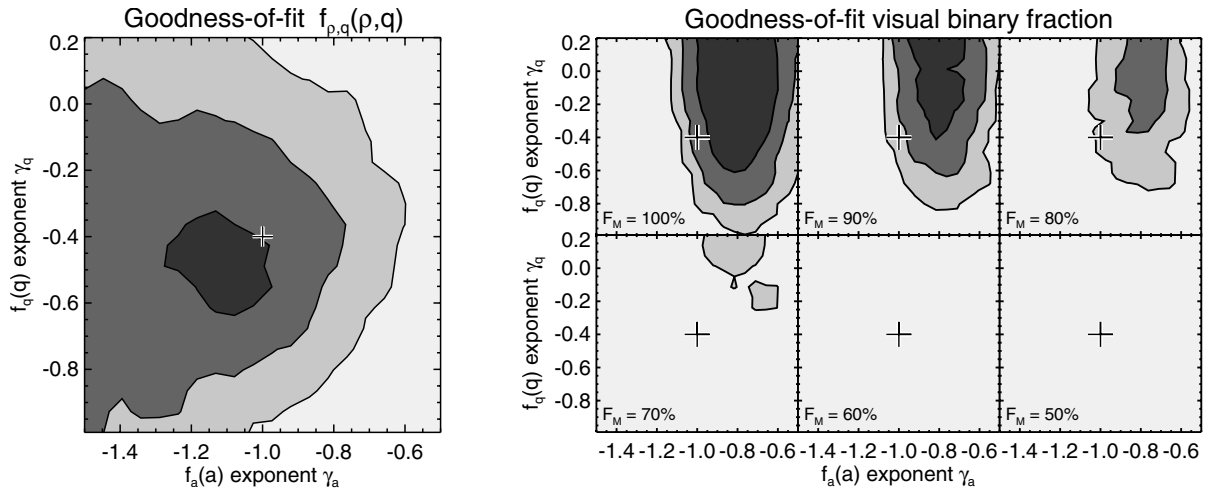


Fig. 9. How well do models with a semi-major axis distribution $f_a(a) \propto a^{\gamma_a}$ and a mass ratio distribution $f_q(q) \propto q^{\gamma_q}$ correspond to the observations? This figure is the multi-dimensional equivalent of Figs. 5 and 6, and indicates that with the *independent* derivation of γ_q and γ_a we have found a globally best-fitting solution. *Left:* the consistency between the observed two-dimensional distribution $\tilde{f}_{\rho,q}(\rho, q)$ and that of simulated observations, for models with different values of γ_a (horizontal axis) and γ_q (vertical axis), respectively. The darkest colors indicate the best-fitting models. From dark to light, the three contours indicate the 1σ , 2σ , and 3σ confidence limits for rejection of the model, respectively. The cross in each panel indicates the values of γ_a and γ_q that we adopt to describe the properties of Sco OB2. *Right:* the consistency between the observed visual binary fraction and that of the simulated observations, for models with different values of γ_a and γ_q . Each panel corresponds to a set of models with a different binary fraction, which is indicated in the bottom-left corner. The darkest colors indicate the best-fitting models. From dark to light, the three contours indicate the 1σ , 2σ , and 3σ confidence limits for rejection of the model, respectively. Models with a binary fraction smaller than $\approx 100\%$ are inconsistent with the observations, as they underpredict the observed number of visual binaries. The cross in each panel indicates the best-fitting values of $\gamma_a \approx -1.0$ and $\gamma_q \approx -0.4$ for Sco OB2.

Figures 9 and 10 show plots corresponding to those in Figs. 5 and 6, but now with the additional free parameter γ_q . The results for a power-law semi-major axis distribution in Fig. 9 are similar to those derived in Sects. 5 and 6. The best-fitting values for γ_a and γ_q in these diagrams are equal (within the error bars) to those of the independent derivations of $f_a(a)$ and $f_q(q)$. Note that

the adopted combination ($\gamma_a \approx -1.0, \gamma_q \approx -0.4$) does not fall in the darkest regions of Fig. 9. The comparison for $\tilde{f}_{\rho,q}(\rho, q)$ (left panel) suggests somewhat smaller values of γ_a and γ_q , while the comparison for the visual binary fraction suggests larger values. An inspection of both comparisons suggests that our adopted combination ($\gamma_a \approx -1.0, \gamma_q \approx -0.4$) is among the best-fitting

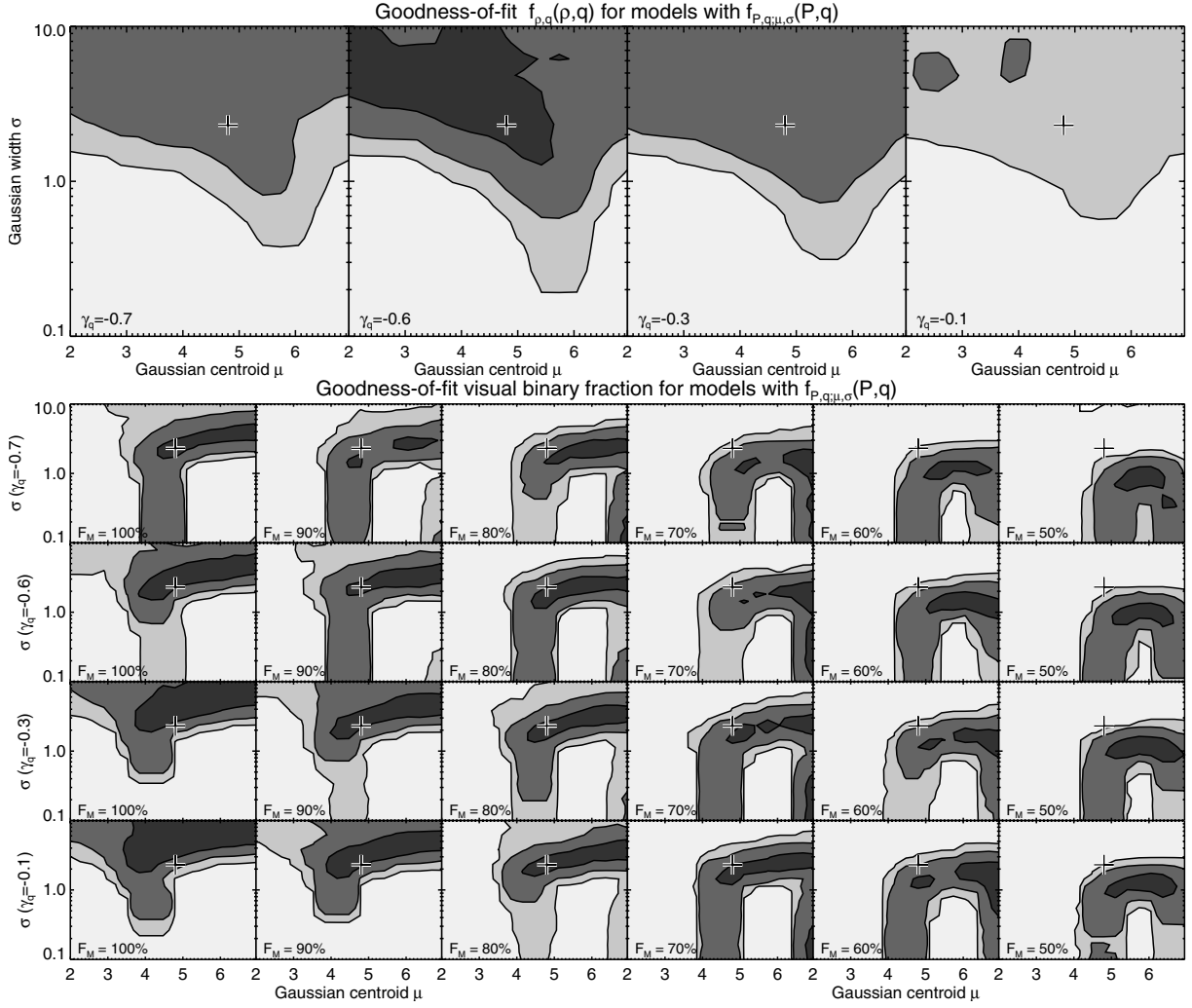


Fig. 10. How well do models with a log-normal period distribution $f_{P,\mu,\sigma}(P)$ and a mass ratio distribution $f_q(q) \propto q^{\gamma_q}$ correspond to the observations? *Top*: a comparison for the observed two-dimensional distribution $\tilde{f}_{\rho,q}(\rho, q)$ for models with different values of μ , σ and γ_q . The cross in each panel indicates the values observed by Duquennoy & Mayor (1991): $\mu = 4.8$ and $\sigma = 2.3$. The four panels correspond to models with a mass ratio distribution exponent $\gamma_q = -0.7$ (left), -0.6 , -0.3 and -0.1 (right), respectively (cf. Fig. 8). The goodness-of-fit is best for the dark-shaded regions. Contours are plotted at 1σ , 2σ and 3σ confidence regions for rejection of the model. *Bottom*: the comparison for the observed visual binary fraction for models with different values of μ , σ and γ_q . The binary fraction, indicated in the bottom-left corner of each panel, decreases from 100% (left) to 50% (right). Contours are plotted at 1σ , 2σ and 3σ confidence regions for rejection of the model.

combinations for both $\tilde{f}_{\rho,q}(\rho, q)$ and \tilde{F}_M . The figure also clearly shows again that an intrinsic binary fraction close to 100% is required. We do not attempt to further constrain the combination (γ_a, γ_q) , as this would involve a combination of the independent comparisons for $\tilde{f}_{\rho,q}(\rho, q)$ and \tilde{F}_M , as this would require accurate knowledge of the relative weights that should be assigned to each of these comparisons.

The results for the log-normal period distribution $f_{P,\mu,\sigma}(P)$ shown in Fig. 10 also indicate that our independent derivation of $f_{P,\mu,\sigma}(P)$ and $f_q(q)$ is justified. The top panels show that the models with a mass ratio distribution exponent $\gamma_q = -0.7$, -0.6 , -0.3 and -0.1 produce a distribution $\tilde{f}_{\rho,q}(\rho, q)$ that is less consistent than that for the models with the best-fitting solution $\gamma_q = -0.4$, for any combination of μ and σ . The bottom panels of Fig. 10 indicate for the observed visual binary fraction the best-fitting combinations of μ , σ , γ_q and F_M (darkest regions). These comparisons indicate that, if the log-normal period distribution with $(\mu, \sigma) = (4.8, 2.3)$ holds, the intrinsic binary fraction should be $F_M \gtrsim 70\%$. Again, we do not attempt to find the optimum combination $(\mu, \sigma, \gamma_q, F_M)$ by combining the results of all

panels, as this would require a detailed prescription of the relative weights given to the comparisons of $\tilde{f}_{\rho,q}(\rho, q)$ and the visual binary fraction, which is not trivial. Note that in our models we adopt a binary fraction that is independent of semi-major axis and mass ratio.

6.6. Conclusions on $f_a(a)$, $f_P(P)$ and F_M

In the sections above we have constrained the properties of the orbital size distribution among intermediate-mass binaries in Sco OB2, using the visual binary surveys of KO5 and SHT and the spectroscopic binary survey of LEV. The tightest binaries have $2R_\odot \lesssim a_{\min} \lesssim 10R_\odot$, corresponding to $0.5 \text{ day} \lesssim P_{\min} \lesssim 1 \text{ day}$. The widest orbits have $2 \times 10^6 R_\odot \lesssim a_{\max} \lesssim 8.9 \times 10^6 R_\odot$, or $0.15 \text{ Myr} \lesssim P_{\max} \lesssim 4 \text{ Myr}$. We have compared the observations with models that have either a power-law semi-major axis distribution or a log-normal period distribution, in order to find the best-fitting orbital size distribution.

We considered a power-law semi-major axis distribution $f_a(a)$ with varying exponent γ_a . Models with a semi-major axis

distribution exponent $\gamma_a \approx -1.0$ are consistent with the observed angular separation distribution and the observed visual binary fraction, but only if the binary fraction is close to 100%. We have additionally considered models with a log-normal period distribution $f_{P,\mu,\sigma}(P)$ with varying centroid μ and width σ . The distribution derived by Duquennoy & Mayor (1991), with $\mu = 4.8$ and $\sigma = 2.3$ is shown to be consistent with the observed angular separation distribution and the observed visual binary fraction for models with an intrinsic binary fraction near 100%. The observed spectroscopic binary fraction, however, is rather large compared to those predicted by the above models, even if all stars are in binary systems.

Öpik's law could be considered as resulting from a very broad log-normal period distribution ($\sigma \rightarrow \infty$). Although Öpik's law and the log-normal period distribution with $(\mu, \sigma) = (4.8, 2.3)$ are consistent with the observations (i.e., they cannot be excluded), the observations indicate that the best description of the binary population in Sco OB2 is intermediate, with $2.3 < \sigma < \infty$.

We have constrained the mass ratio distribution and the orbital size distribution separately. Our investigation of this approach in Sect. 6.5 indicates that we have indeed found the global best-fitting model.

7. Recovering the eccentricity distribution

The eccentricity distribution for binaries in Sco OB2 is not known. The field star population, on the other hand, has been studied in detail by Duquennoy & Mayor (1991), who surveyed solar-type stars in the solar neighbourhood for binarity and find the following composite eccentricity distribution. The close binaries ($P < 10$ days) have a negligible eccentricity, presumably due to tidal circularization, although they may have formed in nearly circular orbits. Binaries with a period $10 < P < 1000$ days show a bell-shaped eccentricity distribution that peaks near $e = 0.3$. Binaries with a larger orbital period tend to have a thermal eccentricity distribution $f_e(e) = 2e$, though the presence of large-eccentricity binaries are inferred by incompleteness corrections. The latter distribution is expected from energy equipartition (Heggie 1975) as a result of multiple soft encounters. A similar result was found by Mathieu (1994), who studied the properties of pre-main-sequence binaries.

Both studies indicate that the eccentricity distribution may well be a function of orbital period, which is perhaps also the case for Sco OB2. The very tight binaries tend to have more or less circular orbits. Tidal circularization may have affected these binaries in Sco OB2. The tidal circularization period P_{circ} , defined as the orbital period at which a binary orbit with a typical initial orbital eccentricity circularizes, is $P_{\text{circ}} = 7\text{--}10$ days for young stellar populations (Meibom & Mathieu 2005). The intermediate-period binaries have a somewhat flat eccentricity distribution, possibly reflecting the formation process. The widest binaries tend to have a more thermal eccentricity distribution, which may (partially) be a result of binary-binary interactions. It must be noted, however, that the eccentricity distribution for the latter two period ranges is very difficult to measure because of the large orbital periods.

It is practically impossible to derive the properties of the eccentricity distribution from observations of visual binaries (e.g., Kouwenhoven 2006). On the other hand, this means that the results we derived from the observations of visual binaries (i.e. $f_q(q)$, $f_a(a)$, $f_P(P)$ and F_M) are *unaffected* by our choice for $f_e(e)$ in the models. In principle it is possible to constrain $f_e(e)$ using observations of spectroscopic and astrometric binaries.

However, only one Sco OB2 binary with an astrometrically determined orbital solution is known.

Only the measurements of the spectroscopic binaries can thus be used to constrain the eccentricity distribution for binaries in Sco OB2. The properties of the eccentricity distribution derived below are only valid for the short-period ($P \lesssim 14$ days; $a \lesssim 40 R_\odot$) and intermediate-mass binaries. Caution should be taken with generalizing the results for the full population of Sco OB2. As we do not model the detection of SB1s, SB2s and RVVs in detail, we cannot compare the eccentricity distribution resulting from the simulated observations (SB1s, SB2s, and RVVs) with the observed eccentricity distribution (SB1s and SB2s only). However, it is possible to set several constraints on the intrinsic eccentricity distribution using the observations of LEV. Due to the limited number of eccentricity measurements, the complicated selection effects, and the possible correlation between e and P , we do not attempt to fully recover $f_e(e)$. Instead, we consider three commonly adopted eccentricity distributions, and compare the resulting predictions with the observations.

In our analysis we will consider three frequently used eccentricity distributions: the flat eccentricity distribution $f_{\text{flat}}(e) = 1$, the thermal eccentricity distribution $f_{2e}(e) = 2e$, and the single-valued eccentricity distribution $f_{e_0}(e) = \delta(e - e_0)$ with $0 \leq e_0 < 1$. Simply by analyzing Fig. 2, we can rule out an eccentricity distribution of the form f_{e_0} , where all binaries have the same eccentricity e_0 . For associations with $f_e(e) = f_{e_0}(e)$ the distribution $\tilde{f}_e(e)$ is unbiased, as all binaries have e_0 . An error is associated with each eccentricity measurement, so that $\tilde{f}_e(e)$ is broader than $f_e(e)$. In the spectroscopic binary sample, the error in the eccentricity is of order 0.05, ruling out the best-fitting distribution with $e_0 = 0.27$ with $\sim 3\sigma$ confidence.

The observed eccentricity distribution is in better agreement with the thermal distribution f_{2e} and the flat distribution f_{flat} . For these distributions the relative (intrinsic) fraction of binary systems with $e < 0.5$ is:

$$E_{2e} = \frac{\# \text{ binaries with } e < 0.5}{\# \text{ binaries}} = 25\%, \quad (23)$$

$$E_{\text{flat}} = \frac{\# \text{ binaries with } e < 0.5}{\# \text{ binaries}} = 50\%. \quad (24)$$

In the LEV sample, 14 of the 16 targets for which the orbital elements are determined have $e < 0.5$, and only 2 have $e > 0.5$. The apparent overabundance of low-eccentricity ($e < 0.5$) systems (see also Fig. 2) can partially be explained by selection effects. Highly eccentric systems spend a large fraction of their orbit near apastron, and are therefore more difficult to detect.

In Sect. 6 we have shown that the observed distribution $\tilde{f}_\rho(\rho)$ and binary fraction \tilde{F}_M of visual binaries are consistent with both Öpik's law and a log-normal period distribution with $F_M \approx 100\%$. For each of these distributions we predict the number of spectroscopic binaries (SB1s, SB2s and RVVs) in the LEV dataset. For models with Öpik's law, our simulations indicate that LEV would be able to detect $\sim 38\%$ of the binary systems spectroscopically (i.e., as SB1, SB2 or RVV) for a flat eccentricity distribution, and $\sim 36\%$ for a thermal eccentricity distribution. If the log-normal period distribution of Duquennoy & Mayor (1991) holds, we find $\sim 27\%$ for a flat eccentricity distribution, and $\sim 24\%$ for a thermal eccentricity distribution, respectively. The observed spectroscopic binary fraction is thus only mildly dependent on $f_e(e)$, and decreases with an increasing average orbital eccentricity. The spectroscopic binary fraction is also proportional to F_M . The expected fraction of spectroscopic

Table 9. The observed binary fraction (in %) and inferred intrinsic binary fraction (in %) for the different datasets discussed in this paper. Columns 1 and 2 list the dataset and the observed binary fraction. The predicted observed binary fraction resulting from Öpik’s law for each dataset (adopting $F_M = 100\%$) is listed in Col. 3, followed by the inferred 1σ , 2σ and 3σ confidence ranges of the inferred binary fraction. The predicted observed binary fraction for the log-normal period distribution with $\mu = 4.8$ and $\sigma = 2.3$ (adopting $F_M = 100\%$) and corresponding confidence ranges for the intrinsic binary fraction are listed in Cols. 7–10. The adopted association parameters are listed in Table 1. For models in Cols. 3–6 the semi-major axis range is $5 R_\odot \leq a \leq 5 \times 10^6 R_\odot$. For models in Cols. 7–10 the period range is $0.7 \text{ day} \leq P \leq 3 \times 10^8 \text{ day}$. For each model we assume a mass ratio distribution of the form $f_q(q) \propto q_q^\gamma$ with $\gamma_q = -0.4$ and a thermal eccentricity distribution. The comparison between observations and simulated observations indicates that the binary fraction among intermediate-mass binaries in Sco OB2 is close to 100% ($\geq 70\%$ with 3σ confidence).

Dataset	Obs.		$f_{\gamma_a}(a), \gamma_a = -1$			$f_{\mu,\sigma}(P), \mu = 4.8, \sigma = 2.3$			
	\tilde{F}_M	\tilde{F}_M	$F_M(1\sigma)$	$F_M(2\sigma)$	$F_M(3\sigma)$	\tilde{F}_M	$F_M(1\sigma)$	$F_M(2\sigma)$	$F_M(3\sigma)$
KO5	30 ± 4	26	≈ 100	91–100	81–100	35	97–100	70–100	61–100
KO6	$< 82 \pm 8$	27	...	...	...	37	...	...	...
SHT	26 ± 4	23	94–100	77–100	63–100	34	64–97	52–100	43–100
LEV SB1/SB2 only	$> 30 \pm 6$	36	> 68	> 54	> 42	24	≈ 100	> 81	> 64
LEV SB1/SB2/RVV	$< 74 \pm 6$	36	...	...	...	24	...	...	...
BRV analysis – RVV	$< 60 \pm 5$	39	...	...	...	27	...	...	...
BRV SB1/SB2/RVV	$< 66 \pm 5$	39	...	...	...	27	...	...	...
HIP (X)/(O)/(G)	4 ± 1	< 31	> 12	> 10	> 8	< 25	> 14	> 11	> 9
HIP (X)/(O)/(G)/(S)	9 ± 1	< 31	> 25	> 22	> 19	< 25	> 30	> 26	> 22
HIP (C)	15 ± 2	13	≈ 100	96–100	86–100	18	77–94	68–100	61–100

binary systems with $e < 0.5$ among the observed targets is thus given by:

$$\tilde{E}_{2e, \text{DM}} = 24\% \times F_M \times E_{2e} \leq 6.0\%; \quad (25)$$

$$\tilde{E}_{2e, \text{Öpik}} = 36\% \times F_M \times E_{2e} \leq 9.0\%; \quad (26)$$

$$\tilde{E}_{\text{flat, DM}} = 27\% \times F_M \times E_{\text{flat}} \leq 13.5\%; \quad (27)$$

$$\tilde{E}_{\text{flat, pik}} = 38\% \times F_M \times E_{\text{flat}} \leq 19.0\%; \quad (28)$$

where the upper limits on the right-hand side are obtained for models with an intrinsic binary fraction $F_M = 100\%$.

For each of the 23 RVVs in the LEV sample we do not know whether it is truly a binary, and if so, we do not know its eccentricity. We therefore constrain $f_e(e)$ by considering two extreme cases for \tilde{E}_{LEV} : (1) none of the RVVs have $e < 0.5$ (i.e., they are either spectroscopically single, or they are binaries with $e > 0.5$), and (2) all RVVs are binary systems with $e < 0.5$. In these extreme cases, \tilde{E}_{LEV} is constrained by

$$26 \pm 6\% < \tilde{E}_{\text{LEV}} < 70 \pm 6\%. \quad (29)$$

The observed spectroscopic binary fraction \tilde{F}_M is inconsistent with the predictions in Eqs. (25)–(28). The models with the log-normal period distribution (with $\mu = 4.8$ and $\sigma = 2.3$) or the thermal eccentricity distribution do not reproduce the observations; they underpredict the number of binaries in the LEV sample with $e < 0.5$, even if *all* RVVs detected by LEV are spurious (which is very unlikely), and the model binary fraction is 100%. The model with Öpik’s law, a flat eccentricity distribution, and a binary fraction of 100% (Eq. (28)) is consistent with the observations, but only if most of the RVV candidate binaries are (spectroscopically) single stars exhibiting line profile variability.

The analysis above indicates that the short-period, intermediate-mass binaries do not follow the thermal eccentricity distribution, but have lower eccentricities on average (see, however, Sect. 10.1). Note that the discussion on the eccentricity distribution is constrained only by a small number of short-period binaries with a massive primary. In the LEV sample, 12 out of the 16 systems with a measured eccentricity have a period $P < P_{\text{circ}}$, suggesting that the derived properties of the eccentricity distribution may not be representative for the binary population of Sco OB2. Accurate radial velocity and astrometric surveys among intermediate- and low-mass

members of Sco OB2 are necessary to further characterize the eccentricity distribution.

8. The binary fraction in Sco OB2

In the previous sections we have constrained the pairing function, the mass ratio distribution, the orbital size distribution and the eccentricity distribution. The analysis of each of these properties indicates that the binary fraction among intermediate mass stars in Sco OB2 has to be close to 100%.

Table 9 lists the fraction of detected binaries among the targeted sample, for the different surveys. Results are listed for the observations and for the simulated observations of models with Öpik’s law and for those with the Duquennoy & Mayor (1991) period distribution. For each of these models we have adopted an intrinsic binary fraction $F_M = 100\%$. The values listed in Table 9 are upper limits, and are proportional to F_M .

The observed visual binary fraction is consistent with Öpik’s law, but also with the log-normal period distribution ($\mu = 4.8$, $\sigma = 2.3$). A binary population with intermediate properties ($2.3 < \sigma < \infty$), however, is most consistent with the observations. The observed spectroscopic binary fraction cannot be compared directly with the simulated observations, as the true nature of the detected radial velocity variables is unknown. The observed spectroscopic binary fraction can be limited by $30 \pm 6\%$ (in the unlikely case that *all* RVVs are spurious) and $74 \pm 6\%$ (if all RVVs are indeed binaries). Even if the intrinsic binary fraction is 100%, models with Öpik’s law only marginally reproduce the observed spectroscopic binary fraction, while those with the Duquennoy & Mayor (1991) period distribution underpredict the observed value. In the case that 50% or 100% of the RVVs are indeed binaries, the log-normal period distribution can be excluded with 4σ and 5σ confidence, respectively, *if* our other assumptions hold (see Sect. 10.1).

Our model for the *Hipparcos* selection effects for the (X), (O), and (G) binaries is not strict enough. This is because in our models we consider *all* binaries with the properties listed in Table 6 as astrometric binaries. In reality, however, only a subset of these would have been marked as an astrometric binary by *Hipparcos* (see Sect. 4.6.2). The predicted astrometric binary fraction can therefore only be used as an upper limit when a

comparison with the observations is made. The predicted fraction of visual binaries in category (C) on the other hand, is well-modeled. Models with a binary fraction $F_M \approx 100\%$ correctly predict the number of (C) binaries.

An inspection of the observed binary fractions for the different datasets (Table 9) and their associated statistical errors above indicates that the binary fraction among intermediate mass stars in Sco OB2 must be larger than $\approx 85\%$ at the 2σ confidence level, and larger than $\approx 70\%$ at the 3σ confidence level. We find that models with a binary fraction of 100% are most consistent with the observations; models with a significantly smaller binary fraction are inconsistent with the observed binary fraction. Mason et al. (1998) found that almost all high-mass stars are multiple. Our complementary results indicate that also practically all intermediate mass stars form in a binary or multiple system.

8.1. Dependence of the derived binary fraction on the limits of a and P

For the models with a power-law semi-major axis distribution $f_a(a)$ we have adopted a semi-major axis distribution $5 R_\odot \leq a \leq 5 \times 10^6 R_\odot$, and for models with a log-normal period distribution $f_{P;\mu,\sigma}(P)$ we have adopted the period range $0.7 \text{ day} \leq P \leq 3 \times 10^8 \text{ day}$. These lower and upper limits are derived from the observational data and have their associated uncertainties (see Sects. 6.1 and 6.2). In this section we briefly study the effect of these uncertainties on our results.

The binary population properties derived from the angular separation distribution of visual binaries are not affected by our choice of the lower and upper limits. The results in the left-hand panels in Figs. 5, 6, 8, 9, the top panels in Fig. 10, and the derived distributions $f_a(a)$, $f_P(P)$ and $f_q(q)$ are insensitive to our choice for the tightest or widest orbits. The inferred binary fraction, however, does depend on these limits. Table 10 shows the expected visual and spectroscopic binary fractions, for models with different a_{\min} and a_{\max} (adopting Öpik's law), and different P_{\min} and P_{\max} (adopting the period distribution of Duquennoy & Mayor 1991). If, for a given model, we increase the value of a_{\max} or P_{\max} , this leads to smaller values for the simulated visual and spectroscopic binary fractions. If we increase a_{\min} or P_{\min} , this leads to smaller spectroscopic binary and a larger visual binary fraction. In other words, an overestimation of a_{\max} or P_{\max} leads to an *overestimation* of the inferred intrinsic binary fraction F_M . An overestimation of a_{\min} or P_{\min} leads to an *overestimation* of F_M as derived from the observed spectroscopic binary fraction, but to an *underestimation* of F_M as derived from the observed visual binary fraction.

Fortunately, the properties of the tightest and widest binaries are reasonably well constrained by observations. Table 10 shows that the uncertainty in the observed visual binary fraction is approximately 2%, as a result of the errors in a_{\min} and a_{\max} . The corresponding error in the spectroscopic binary fraction ranges from about 2% for the log-normal period distribution to approximately 5% for Öpik's law. The uncertainty in the inferred intrinsic binary fraction is slightly smaller as we combine the visual and spectroscopic results. An overestimation of a_{\min} , for example, leads to a larger visual binary fraction but a smaller spectroscopic binary fraction, so that the systematic uncertainty on F_M partially cancels out. The effects of the uncertainty in the lower and upper limits of $f_a(a)$ and $f_P(P)$ are therefore limited. We estimate that this uncertainty results in a systematic error of $\lesssim 2\text{--}4\%$ in the inferred intrinsic binary fraction F_M .

Table 10. The simulated observed binary fraction for models with a different assumption for the tightest and widest binaries. The first and second column list the properties of the tightest and widest orbits, respectively. The third and fourth column list the visual binary fraction for the simulated combined KO5/SHT observations and the spectroscopic binary fraction for the simulated LEV observations, respectively. For each model we adopt an intrinsic binary fraction $F_M = 100\%$ and a thermal eccentricity distribution. The values listed in Cols. 3 and 4 are proportional to F_M . The statistical errors on the listed binary fraction are 0.5–1%. The values listed in this table provide error estimates for our results in Table 9. The uncertainties in the limits of $f_a(a)$ and $f_P(P)$ result in a systematic error of $< 2\text{--}4\%$ in the inferred intrinsic binary of the binary population.

$f_{\text{Öpik}}(a)$ limits		$\tilde{F}_{M,\text{KO5,SHT}}$ (%)	$\tilde{F}_{M,\text{LEV}}$ (%)
$2 R_\odot$	$2.0 \times 10^6 R_\odot$	25	42
$2 R_\odot$	$8.9 \times 10^6 R_\odot$	24	37
$10 R_\odot$	$2.0 \times 10^6 R_\odot$	27	34
$10 R_\odot$	$8.9 \times 10^6 R_\odot$	25	30
$f_{\text{DM}}(P)$ limits		\tilde{F}_M VB (%)	\tilde{F}_M SB (%)
0.5 day	0.15 Myr	38	25
0.5 day	4.00 Myr	35	22
2.0 day	0.15 Myr	39	22
2.0 day	4.00 Myr	36	20

9. The primordial binary population in Sco OB2

Sco OB2 is a young OB association (5–20 Myr) with a low stellar density ($\sim 0.1 M_\odot \text{ pc}^{-3}$), comparable to the stellar density in the solar neighbourhood. One therefore expects that stellar and dynamical evolution have only mildly altered the properties of the binary population. In this section we study which binary systems in Sco OB2 may have changed one or more of their parameters since the time of formation. We first consider whether stellar (and binary) evolution has affected the binary population, and subsequently investigate the importance of dynamical evolution.

For stellar populations with an age less than about 20 Myr the fraction of binaries of which the properties have changed due to stellar evolution is small. The hydrogen-burning time as a function of initial mass and initial rotational velocity was studied by Meynet & Maeder (2000). According to their model, stars more massive than 32–42 M_\odot (O6 V) in US, and stars more massive than 10–11 M_\odot (B2 V) in UCL and LCC have evolved away from the main sequence. The lower and upper limits for each subgroup correspond to stars with an initial rotational velocity of 0 km s^{-1} and 300 km s^{-1} , respectively. The most massive star in the US subgroup is Antares, an M1 Ib supergiant with an initial mass of $22.5 \pm 2.5 M_\odot$ (Preibisch et al. 2002), indicating that we may have mildly overestimated the upper mass limit for the US subgroup. The derived mass limit for the UCL and LCC subgroups corresponds roughly to the observed range of spectral types. An extrapolation of the mass distribution (Eq. (2)) to infinity suggests that only 3–8 stars of spectral type O ($M \gtrsim 20 M_\odot$) have formed in Sco OB2.

Several of the binary systems with a primary initially more massive than the turn-off mass will have produced a compact component. These compact objects and their previous companion stars may have obtained a significant kick during the supernova event, resulting in a space velocity significantly different from that of their parent association (runaway stars). The properties of compact binary systems including at least one star with a higher initial mass may have changed due to binary evolution. For $\gtrsim 99.9\%$ of the binaries in Sco OB2, however, both

components have an initial mass (much) less than those mentioned above; stellar evolution will not have affected these binaries.

Changes of the binary population due to stellar evolution can therefore be neglected. The change due to dynamical evolution is more complicated to quantify. Below we calculate which binary systems are affected by dynamical evolution, at the *current* stellar density of the association. After that we briefly discuss the consequences of the fact that the subgroups of Sco OB2 may have been denser in the past.

The subgroups of Sco OB2 can be approximated as roughly spherical, with radii of order $R = 20\text{--}30$ pc (see Table 1). The structure and kinematics of Sco OB2 have been studied by de Bruijne (1999), who finds that the one-dimensional internal velocity dispersion for each of the subgroups is $\sigma_{v,1D} \lesssim 1.0\text{--}1.5$ km s⁻¹, corresponding to a three-dimensional velocity dispersion $\sigma_{v,3D} \lesssim 1.7\text{--}2.6$ km s⁻¹. The crossing time of each subgroup is thus $\tau_{\text{cross}} = R/\sigma_{v,3D} \gtrsim 10$ Myr. Preibisch et al. (2002) find that the US subgroup contains approximately 2525 members more massive than $0.1 M_{\odot}$. The total number of members N in the substellar regime depends on the unknown values of M_{min} and M_{β} in Eq. (2). For reasonable value of M_{min} and M_{β} , about 44% of the members have a mass smaller than $0.1 M_{\odot}$, so that the total number of systems equals $N \approx 4500$. Adopting a mass ratio distribution of the form $f_q(q) \propto q^{-0.4}$ and a binary fraction of 100%, the total mass of US is of order $2280 M_{\odot}$. We assume that the UCL and LCC subgroups contain a similar number of members. The mass density of each subgroup is therefore of order $0.04 \pm 0.02 M_{\odot} \text{pc}^{-3}$, corresponding to 0.09 ± 0.04 systems (or 0.17 ± 0.09 individual stars) per cubic parsec.

An estimate for the relaxation time τ_{relax} , i.e., the typical timescale at which a system of N *single* stars has “forgotten” the initial conditions, is

$$\tau_{\text{relax}} \approx \frac{N}{8 \ln N} \times \tau_{\text{cross}} \gtrsim 670 \text{ Myr} \quad (30)$$

(Binney & Tremaine 1987). As the cross-section for binary systems is significantly larger than that of single stars, they interact more frequently, so that in reality the timescale of dynamical evolution is shorter than given by Eq. (30). Whether a binary system experiences a strong encounter, depends not only on the properties of the association, but also on the size (more specifically, the binding energy) of the binary systems. A binary system is often classified as *hard* or *soft*, depending on whether it is likely to experience a strong encounter within a relaxation time. A binary system is called “hard” if its orbital energy E_{orb} is significantly larger than the mean kinetic energy $\langle K \rangle$ of the surrounding stars: $E_{\text{orb}} > 3\langle K \rangle$ (Heggie 1975; Hills 1975); otherwise a binary system is called “soft”. The orbital energy of a binary system is given by

$$E_{\text{orb}} = \frac{qGM_1^2}{2a} \quad (31)$$

where q is the mass ratio, G the gravitational constant, M_1 the primary mass, and a the semi-major axis of the binary system. The mean kinetic energy is given by

$$\langle K \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \langle M_T \rangle \sigma_{v,3D}^2, \quad (32)$$

where $\langle M_T \rangle$ is the average mass of a field object, and $\sigma_{v,3D}$ its three-dimensional velocity dispersion. Assuming a binary fraction of 100%, the median mass of a field object (i.e., another

binary system in the association), is $\langle M_T \rangle \approx 0.21 M_{\odot}$. The three-dimensional velocity dispersion is $\sigma_{v,3D} \lesssim 1.7\text{--}2.6$ km s⁻¹ (de Bruijne 1999). The hard/soft boundary a_{hs} for a binary star with primary mass M_1 and mass ratio q is thus given by $E_{\text{orb}} = 3\langle K \rangle$, i.e.,

$$a_{\text{hs}} = \frac{G}{3\langle M_T \rangle \sigma_{v,3D}^2} q M_1^2 \\ \gtrsim 350 q \left(\frac{M_1}{M_{\odot}} \right)^2 \text{ AU} = 7.5 \times 10^4 q \left(\frac{M_1}{M_{\odot}} \right)^2 R_{\odot}. \quad (33)$$

The latter value is in good agreement with the widest known binaries in Sco OB2 (see Sect. 6.2), which all have a primary mass of order $3 M_{\odot}$. The datasets studied in this paper contain mainly A and B type members of Sco OB2, which have $M_1 \gtrsim 1.4 M_{\odot}$. Among the binaries more massive than $1.4 M_{\odot}$, about $72 \pm 5\%$ are hard, while the widest $28 \pm 5\%$ of the binaries are soft, if Öpik’s law holds. If the Duquennoy & Mayor (1991) period distribution holds, $77 \pm 3\%$ of these binaries are hard, and $24 \pm 3\%$ are soft. The quoted errors include only the contribution from the uncertainty in a_{min} and a_{max} . The population of A and B stars must therefore be close to primordial, given the young age of the association. On the other hand, among the lower-mass binaries ($M_1 \approx 0.5 M_{\odot}$) about half of the binaries is hard. The other half of the binaries (i.e., the soft low-mass binaries) is expected to experience a close encounter within a relaxation time. However, as shown above, the (current) relaxation time is significantly larger than the age of Sco OB2, suggesting that this population is unlikely to have changed significantly. The majority of binaries, in particular the intermediate-mass binaries studied in this paper, are unlikely to have experienced a strong encounter during the lifetime of the association, assuming that the density did not change over time.

The density of Sco OB2 may have been (much) higher during the star formation process. Simulations of van den Berk et al. (2007), however, suggest that even at higher stellar densities, the binarity population is only mildly affected by dynamical interactions. In the latter paper, simulations of small ($N = 100$) and initially dense ($\sim 10^5$ systems per cubic parsec) expanding star clusters are presented. Their simulations include triple systems for which the period of the outer orbit reaches up to 1000 years. Although these simulated clusters are more than a million times denser than the current density of Sco OB2, the properties of the binary population do not change significantly within 20 Myr. As about 60% of the binary systems in Sco OB2 has an orbital period smaller than 1000 years, these binaries are expected not to have changed significantly since the birth of the association, even if the density of Sco OB2 was orders of magnitude larger at the time of formation.

The discussion above indicates that the current binary population is likely very similar to the current binary population, suggesting that *all* intermediate mass stars have formed in a binary or multiple system. However, due to the as yet unknown initial conditions of Sco OB2 (such as the initial stellar density), N -body simulations of expanding OB associations are necessary to further constrain the primordial binary population of Sco OB2. By varying the initial conditions, evolving each simulated association for 5–20 Myr, and comparing the outcome with the observations, the primordial binary population can be recovered. The latter technique is referred to as inverse dynamical population synthesis (see Kroupa 1995a,b).

Table 11. The number of background stars expected *per field of view* for each of the three imaging surveys discussed in this paper, according to our model. The field of view size is 361.2 arcsec² for KO5, 196.0 arcsec² for KO6, and 280.1 arcsec² for SHT. We list the results for three different pointings: to the centers of the three subgroups US, UCL, and LCC, and for the intersection of LCC with the Galactic plane. Columns 4, 6, and 8 list the number of background stars brighter than $K_S = 12$ mag *per field of view*. Columns 5, 7, and 9 list the number of background stars brighter than $K_S = 18$ mag *per field of view*. The last column lists for each group the value of the normalization constant C in Eq. (34).

Group	l	b	N_{KO5} <12 mag	N_{KO5} <18 mag	N_{KO6} <12 mag	N_{KO6} <18 mag	N_{SHT} <12 mag	N_{SHT} <18 mag	C (arcsec ⁻²)
US	352°	20°	0.002	0.19	0.001	0.10	0.002	0.15	1.93×10^{-9}
UCL	328°	13°	0.010	0.87	0.006	0.47	0.008	0.67	8.71×10^{-9}
LCC	299°	6°	0.016	1.35	0.009	0.73	0.013	1.05	13.5×10^{-9}
GP	300°	0°	0.057	4.78	0.031	2.59	0.044	3.70	48.0×10^{-9}

10. Discussion

10.1. Triple and higher-order systems

In our analysis we have constrained the properties of the binary population primarily using observations of visual binaries. Our simulations have indicated that even models with an intrinsic binary fraction of 100% produce a rather low spectroscopic binary fraction as compared to the observations of LEV. Throughout this paper, however, we have ignored the presence of triple and higher-order systems. These systems are known to be present in Sco OB2: the observed higher-order multiplicity fraction among *Hipparcos* members of Sco OB2 is $(T + Q + \dots)/(S + B + T + Q + \dots) = 8.4\%$ (see Table 1). This value is a lower limit due to the presence of undetected companions. The studies of Tokovinin & Smekhov (2002) and Correia et al. (2006) have indicated that 20–30% of the wide visual binaries have a spectroscopic subsystem.

The presence of these triple and higher-order systems among the *Hipparcos* members of Sco OB2 could explain the apparent underabundance of spectroscopic binaries in our models at least partially, if one would only include the outer components of a multiple system in the statistics. We do not attempt to calculate the contribution of spectroscopic subsystems in this paper, as this would require detailed a priori knowledge about the triple population. Further detailed observational studies are necessary to characterize the properties of these systems, and to derive the primordial binary-and-multiple-systems population of Sco OB2.

10.2. Comparison with Heacox (1995)

Heacox (1995) derived the mass ratio distribution for Sco OB2 binaries with an intermediate-mass primary from the LEV dataset. He derived the mass ratio distribution using the observations of all 22 binaries with spectroscopic elements, resulting in a mean mass ratio $\langle q \rangle \approx 0.27$ with a standard deviation $\sigma_q \approx 0.04$. In our analysis we adopt a mass ratio distribution of the form $f_q(q) \propto q^{\gamma_q}$. If this distribution is adopted, the mean mass ratio is $\langle q \rangle = (\gamma_q + 1)/(\gamma_q + 2)$, and the standard deviation is $\sigma_q = (\gamma_q + 1)/(\gamma_q + 3) - \langle q \rangle^2$. Our best-fitting solution has $\gamma_q = -0.4 \pm 0.1$, so that $\langle q \rangle = 0.37 \pm 0.04$ and $\sigma_q = 0.090 \pm 0.002$ (formal errors). These quantities, based on our analysis of *visual* binaries, are mildly larger than the values derived by Heacox (1995). In the latter paper the mass ratio distribution is derived from a much smaller, but *independent* sample. Heacox (1995) derives the mass ratio distribution for *spectroscopic* binaries with early B-type primaries, while in our analysis we derive the distribution from observations of *visual* binaries with B and A-type primaries.

10.3. Background stars

In imaging surveys it is not always clear whether a secondary is a physical companion or a background star. In our models for the association this is obviously not a problem (as we know the true nature of each star in our model), but in practice it is. In this section we discuss briefly how background stars can affect the interpretation of the results of a visual binary survey. We use the prescription derived in Kouwenhoven et al. (2007) for the number of background stars brighter than K_S and with an angular separation smaller than ρ , as a function of K_S and ρ :

$$N(K_S, \rho) = C \cdot 10^{\gamma \cdot K_S} \cdot A(\rho), \quad (34)$$

where $A(\rho)$ is the enclosed area in the field of view within a radius ρ , $\gamma = 0.32 \pm 0.01 \text{ mag}^{-1}$, and C is a constant. The K_S dependency was derived by KO6 using the Besançon model of the Galaxy (Robin et al. 2003), and the normalization constant C is determined using the background star study of SHT. Table 11 lists for each of the three visual surveys (KO5, KO6, and SHT) the expected number of background stars *per field of view*. We list the number of background stars with $K_S < 12$ mag and with $K_S < 18$ mag for four different pointings in the Sco OB2 region.

For the N targets in our model, we assume that $N/3$ targets are in each of the regions US and UCL, and that $N/6$ targets are in each of the regions LCC and the Galactic plane (GP). After the number of background stars N_{bg} is determined, each background star is assigned a K_S magnitude randomly drawn from the generating distribution corresponding to Eq. (34). Each of the N_{bg} background stars is assigned a random position in the field of one of the N target stars. Finally, the angular separation and magnitude difference are calculated. For each background star we then decide whether it would be detected in the simulated observations, i.e., whether it satisfies the contrast constraint. Figure 11 shows the results for one of our models. Note how well the results in this figure resemble those of the KO5 observations in Kouwenhoven et al. (2007) in their Fig. 8.

As the properties of the background star population are well described, and the parallax and age of each Sco OB2 member star is known, the colour and magnitude of each secondary can be used to determine whether it is a companion star or a background star. This method has been used in the analysis of the surveys of SHT, KO5, and KO6. SHT consider all new companions with $K_S > 12$ mag, $J > 13$ mag, or $J - K_S > 1$ mag as background stars. KO5 consider all new companions with $K_S > 12$ mag as background stars. The expected number of background stars with $K_S < 12$ mag in the KO5 and SHT datasets can now be calculated. Among the 199 targets in the KO5 dataset, we expect 1–4 background stars with $K_S < 12$ mag. In their follow-up study KO6 show that the $K_S = 12$ criterion correctly classifies the companions and background stars

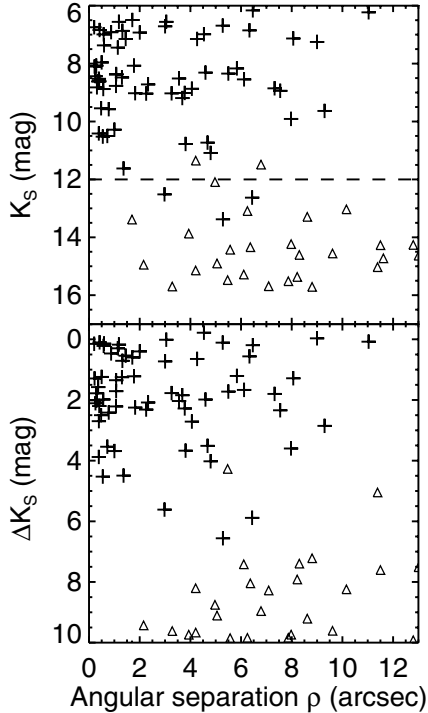


Fig. 11. The simulated KO5 data for a realization of the best-fitting model of Sco OB2 (cf. Kouwenhoven et al. 2007, their Fig. 3.8). The plots show the distribution of physical companions (pluses) and background stars (triangles). The horizontal dashed line indicates the criterion used by KO5 (based on the analysis of SHT) to statistically separate companion stars and background stars. The simulated sample consists of 199 targets, next to which we detect 64 companion stars and 28 background stars. Although three companions have $K_S > 12$ mag, and two background stars have $K_S < 12$ mag in this example, the majority of the secondaries is correctly classified if $K_S = 12$ mag is used to separate companions and background stars.

in about 85% of the cases. They performed multi-colour observations of several doubtful candidate companions, and identified six of these as possible background stars. Among the 87 confirmed Sco OB2 members in the SHT dataset we expect ~ 1 background star with $K_S < 12$ mag. The expected number of bright background stars is small, and many background stars have been removed by magnitude criteria and the follow-up study of KO6. The possible presence of background stars among the candidate binaries thus has a negligible effect on the conclusions of our analysis.

10.4. Binary fraction versus primary mass

Throughout this paper we have assumed that most binary parameters are mutually independent, and independent of the binary fraction as well. We have ignored the possible dependence of binary fraction, semi-major axis, eccentricity, and mass ratio on primary mass. However, due to the relatively small range of primary masses studied, these dependencies do not affect our results significantly.

Several recent studies have focused on the very low-mass (VLM) and brown dwarf (BD) binaries in Sco OB2, such as the survey for spectroscopic binaries in US and ρ Oph by Kurosawa et al. (2006), and the near-infrared visual imaging survey among 12 VLM and BD members of Sco OB2 by Kraus et al. (2005). Surveys for binarity among the lowest mass stars and brown dwarfs find an *observed* binary fraction $\tilde{F}_M \approx 20\%$

(Basri & Reiners 2006; Burgasser et al. 2007). This value is a lower limit to the *intrinsic* binary fraction among these targets due to the presence of undetected companions. As the details of the binary formation mechanism are not known, we limit ourselves to a discussion of two possible relations between the binary fraction $F_M(M_1)$ and the primary mass M_1 : a linear and a logarithmic dependence.

For simplicity, we adopt a binary fraction of 100% for the most massive stars in Sco OB2: $F_M(20 M_\odot) = 100\%$ and the observational constraint for the binary fraction in the low-mass regime: $F_M(0.02 M_\odot) > \tilde{F}_M(0.02 M_\odot) \approx 20\%$. Adopting a linear relation between $\tilde{F}_M(M_1)$ and M_1 , we find that $F_M(M_1) > \tilde{F}_M(M_1) \approx 4(M_1/M_\odot) + 20\%$. This prescription results in a strong dependence for high-mass stars: the binary fraction drops from $F_M(20 M_\odot) = 100\%$ for the earliest B stars to $F_M(3 M_\odot) > 32\%$ for the latest B stars. If we assume, for example, that the *intrinsic* binary fraction for brown dwarfs is 50%, the binary fraction for the latest B stars is 55%, and even lower for the A stars. As our observations are dominated by targets of spectral type A ($1.5 \lesssim M_1 \lesssim 3 M_\odot$), the linear prescription for $F_M(M_1)$ can be excluded (unless the dependence is very weak).

A logarithmic form for $F_M(M_1)$ results in $F_M(M_1) > 26.7 \log(M_1/M_\odot) + 65.3\%$. Then stars of spectral type B have a binary fraction of 80–100%, and those of spectral type A have a binary fraction of 70–80%. Again, if we assume an *intrinsic* binary fraction for brown dwarfs of 50%, the values are 85–100% and 80–85%, respectively. The latter values are in better agreement with our observations, although they are rather low.

A correlation between binary fraction and spectral type may be present for Sco OB2, although the functional relation is presently unknown. Our derived value for F_M , however, is unlikely to be strongly affected by our choice of a binary fraction that is independent of spectral type, due to the relatively small range in mass of the binaries in our analysis. Finally, we wish to note that the derivation of the distributions $f_a(a)$, $f_P(P)$ and $f_q(q)$ are practically independent of our choice of $F_M(M_1)$.

11. Summary and outlook

We have recovered the properties of the intermediate-mass binary population in the nearby OB association Sco OB2, with the aim of finding the primordial binary population (which is present just after star formation). We have performed Monte Carlo simulations, and compared for each association model the *simulated observations* with the results of surveys for visual, spectroscopic, and astrometric binary systems in Sco OB2. The main results of our study are the following:

- The current binary fraction among A and B stars in Sco OB2 is at least 70% (3σ confidence). The best agreement with the observations is obtained for models with a binary fraction of 100%.
- We constrain the orbital size distribution (which can be described using a semi-major axis distribution or a period distribution) using the observed angular separation distribution and the number of visual, spectroscopic, and astrometric binaries. The observations are consistent with Öpik’s law, i.e., $f_a(a) \propto a^{\gamma_a}$ with $\gamma_a \approx -1.0$, which corresponds to an orbital period distribution $f_P(P) \propto P^{-1}$. The log-normal period distribution found by Duquennoy & Mayor (1991), which corresponds to a log-normal semi-major axis distribution, is consistent with the observed angular separation distribution and visual binary fraction (if $F_M \approx 100\%$), but significantly underpredicts the number of spectroscopic binaries.

The best-fitting models have intermediate properties, i.e., a period distribution with width $\sigma_p > 2.3$.

- Random pairing (RP) and primary-constrained random pairing (PCRP) from the mass distribution are excluded with high confidence. The pairing function of intermediate mass binaries in Sco OB2 is well-described by a mass ratio distribution of the form $f_q(q) \propto q^{\gamma_q}$, with $\gamma_q \approx -0.4$.
- Sco OB2 is a young OB association with a low stellar density. Stellar and binary evolution have practically only affected the binaries with O-type components. Dynamical evolution has only mildly affected the binary population. The current binary population of Sco OB2, as described above, is expected to be very similar to the primordial binary population of Sco OB2.

Practically all intermediate mass stars in Sco OB2 are part of a binary or multiple system. Although the most massive stars in Sco OB2 have already evolved away from the main sequence, observations of younger populations suggest that practically all of these were binary or multiple (e.g. Mason et al. 1998). Our results are in excellent agreement with those of Kobulnicky & Fryer (2006), who studied binarity among early-type stars in the Cygnus OB2 association. This implies that *multiplicity is a fundamental parameter in the star forming process*.

In this paper we have included the results of six major binarity surveys among Sco OB2 members. We have not included the smaller surveys and individual discoveries, as each of these has its specific, often poorly documented selection effects. Inclusion of these will provide a better description of the binary population in Sco OB2. However, the results are likely to be similar to those described in this paper, as the six major binary surveys used contain the large majority of the known binaries in Sco OB2. Although previous observations (e.g. Kouwenhoven et al. 2005, 2007) have shown that triple and higher-order systems are present in Sco OB2, we have neglected these systems here, because of the non-trivial comparison with the observations, the more complicated selection effects, and the very small number of known higher-order multiples.

In our recovery of the current and primordial binary population in Sco OB2 we have made several assumptions and simplifications. Our main results are obtained using the visual binaries, and are shown to be consistent with the available spectroscopic and astrometric binaries. The modeling of the selection effects of the spectroscopic and astrometric binaries needs to be improved, so that the simulated observations can be directly compared to the observed binary parameter distributions, in order to accurately derive the eccentricity distribution and the possible correlation between the different binary parameters.

The assumed independence of the binary parameters, as well as the properties of the low-mass binary population need to be addressed observationally. Due to selection effects a relatively small number of binaries is known among the low-mass members of Sco OB2, making it difficult to derive the properties of these. Several studies for binarity among low-mass (candidate) members of Sco OB2 have been performed recently (e.g. Bouy et al. 2006; Kurosawa et al. 2006; Kraus & Hillenbrand 2007). In the near future, after a further extension of the dataset, and a thorough membership study, it may be possible to characterize the binary population of Sco OB2 over the full range of spectral types. This issue can be further and more accurately addressed using the results of the *Gaia* space mission (Perryman et al. 2001; Turon et al. 2005), which is a project of the European Space Agency, expected to be launched in 2011. *Gaia* will survey over a billion stars in our Galaxy and the Local

Group, and will provide an enormous dataset of visual, eclipsing, spectroscopic, and astrometric binaries (Söderhjelm 2005). The membership and stellar content of nearby OB associations can be accurately determined using the results of *Gaia*, down into the brown dwarf regime. The *Gaia* dataset will be homogeneous, and its selection effects can therefore be modeled in detail. The available dataset of binaries will be larger and more complete than any other binarity survey in Galactic star clusters and OB associations thus far.

The current binary population in Sco OB2 is a fossil record of the primordial binary population, as the young age and low stellar density of Sco OB2 guarantees that stellar evolution has affected only a handful of the most massive binaries, and suggests that dynamical evolution of the binary population has been modest. The latter statement needs to be verified using numerical simulations of evolving OB associations. Whether the effect of dynamical evolution has been negligible over the lifetime of Sco OB2 depends on its initial conditions. If Sco OB2 was born as a low-density association, similar to its present state, the binary population is expected to have changed only modestly due to dynamical evolution. On the other hand, if the association has expanded significantly over the last 5–20 Myr, dynamical evolution may have been more prominent.

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Online Material

Appendix A: Datasets used**Table A.1.** Properties of the KO5 dataset that we use in our analysis. Note that not all candidate companions are listed here, as in our analysis we only consider single stars and binary systems. The members HIP 68532 and HIP 69113 (marked with a star) both have two companions with a similar separation, position angle, and brightness. In our analysis we consider these “double companions” as a single companion.

HIP	$K_{S,1}$ mag	$K_{S,2}$ mag	ΔK_S mag	ρ arcsec	φ deg	M_1 M_\odot	M_2 M_\odot	q
HIP 50520	6.23	6.39	0.16	2.51	313	2.12	1.98	0.93
HIP 52357	7.64	7.65	0.01	0.53	73	1.60	0.22	0.14
HIP 56993	7.38	11.88	4.50	1.68	23	1.90	0.180	0.09
HIP 58416	7.03	8.66	1.63	0.58	166	1.86	1.00	0.54
HIP 59413	7.46	8.18	0.72	3.18	100	1.62	1.34	0.83
HIP 59502	6.87	11.64	4.77	2.94	26	1.80	0.14	0.08
HIP 60084	7.65	10.10	2.45	0.46	330	1.66	0.62	0.37
HIP 61265	7.46	11.38	3.92	2.51	67	1.82	0.27	0.15
HIP 61639	6.94	7.06	0.12	1.87	182	1.82	1.74	0.96
HIP 61796	6.37	11.79	5.42	9.89	109	2.46	0.14	0.06
HIP 62002	7.09	7.65	0.56	0.38	69	1.68	1.20	0.71
HIP 62026	6.31	7.86	1.55	0.23	6	2.45	1.19	0.49
HIP 62179	7.20	7.57	0.37	0.23	283	1.84	1.56	0.85
HIP 64515	6.78	6.94	0.16	0.31	166	1.96	1.84	0.94
HIP 65822	6.68	11.08	4.40	1.82	304	2.91	0.38	0.13
HIP 67260	6.98	8.36	1.38	0.42	229	2.00	1.10	0.55
HIP 67919	6.59	9.10	2.51	0.69	297	1.97	0.75	0.38
HIP 68080	6.28	7.19	0.91	1.92	10	2.91	1.92	0.66
HIP 68532*	7.02	9.54	2.53	3.05	289	1.95	1.12	0.57
HIP 68867	7.17	11.61	4.44	2.16	285	2.18	0.24	0.11
HIP 69113*	6.37	10.29	3.92	5.34	65	3.87	1.49	0.39
HIP 69749	6.62	11.60	4.98	1.50	1	3.81	0.38	0.10
HIP 70998	7.06	10.83	3.77	1.17	355	2.54	0.48	0.19
HIP 71724	6.79	9.70	2.91	8.66	23	2.62	0.82	0.31
HIP 71727	6.89	7.80	0.91	9.14	245	2.46	1.64	0.67
HIP 72940	6.85	8.57	1.72	3.16	222	1.82	0.96	0.53
HIP 72984	7.05	8.50	1.45	4.71	260	1.90	1.06	0.56
HIP 74066	6.08	8.43	2.35	1.22	110	2.68	1.02	0.38
HIP 74479	6.31	10.83	4.52	4.65	154	3.03	0.38	0.13
HIP 75056	7.31	11.17	3.86	5.19	35	1.92	0.30	0.16
HIP 75151	6.65	8.09	1.44	5.70	121	3.19	1.64	0.51
HIP 75915	6.44	8.15	1.71	5.60	229	2.89	1.22	0.42
HIP 76001	7.60	7.80	0.20	0.25	3	1.54	1.36	0.88
HIP 76071	7.06	10.87	3.81	0.69	41	2.70	0.23	0.09
HIP 77315	7.24	7.92	0.68	0.68	67	2.08	1.56	0.75
HIP 77911	6.68	11.84	5.16	7.96	279	2.80	0.09	0.03
HIP 77939	6.56	8.09	1.53	0.52	119	3.85	1.82	0.47
HIP 78756	7.16	9.52	2.36	8.63	216	2.30	0.92	0.40
HIP 78809	7.51	10.26	2.75	1.18	26	2.03	0.30	0.15
HIP 78847	7.32	11.30	3.98	8.95	164	2.20	0.160	0.07
HIP 78853	7.50	8.45	0.95	1.99	270	1.82	1.14	0.63
HIP 78956	7.57	9.04	1.47	1.02	49	2.40	1.16	0.48
HIP 79124	7.13	10.38	3.25	1.02	96	2.48	0.33	0.13
HIP 79156	7.61	10.77	3.16	0.89	59	2.09	0.27	0.13
HIP 79250	7.49	10.71	3.22	0.62	181	1.42	0.140	0.10
HIP 79530	6.60	8.34	1.74	1.69	220	3.73	1.58	0.42
HIP 79631	7.17	7.61	0.44	2.94	128	1.90	1.58	0.83
HIP 79739	7.08	11.23	4.15	0.96	118	2.32	0.16	0.07
HIP 79771	7.10	10.89	3.79	3.67	313	2.14	0.19	0.09
HIP 80238	7.34	7.49	0.15	1.03	318	1.94	1.67	0.86
HIP 80324	7.33	7.52	0.19	6.23	152	1.70	1.54	0.91
HIP 80371	6.40	8.92	2.52	2.73	141	3.43	0.94	0.27
HIP 80425	7.40	8.63	1.23	0.60	156	2.08	1.16	0.56
HIP 80461	5.92	7.09	1.17	0.27	286	5.29	2.97	0.56
HIP 80799	7.45	9.80	2.35	2.94	205	1.86	0.34	0.18
HIP 80896	7.44	10.33	2.89	2.28	177	1.81	0.24	0.13
HIP 81624	5.80	7.95	2.15	1.13	224	6.53	2.30	0.35
HIP 81972	5.87	11.77	5.90	5.04	213	4.92	0.35	0.07
HIP 83542	5.38	9.90	4.52	8.86	196	1.10	0.91	0.83
HIP 83693	5.69	9.26	3.57	5.82	78	4.95	1.06	0.21

Table A.2. Properties of the KO6 dataset that we use in our analysis. Note that not all candidate companions are listed here, as in our analysis we only consider single stars and binary systems. The members HIP 68532 and HIP 69113 (marked with a star) both have two companions with a similar separation, position angle, and brightness. In our analysis we consider these “double companions” as a single companion.

HIP	$K_{S,1}$ mag	$K_{S,2}$ mag	ΔK_S mag	ρ arcsec	φ deg	M_1 M_\odot	M_2 M_\odot	q
HIP 59502	6.87	11.64	4.77	2.935	26	1.80	0.14	0.08
HIP 60851	6.06	13.69	7.63	8.159	231	2.63	0.04	0.02
HIP 61265	7.46	11.38	3.93	2.505	67	1.82	0.27	0.15
HIP 62026	6.31	7.86	1.55	0.232	6	2.45	1.19	0.49
HIP 63204	6.78	8.40	1.62	0.153	237	2.05	1.06	0.52
HIP 67260	6.98	8.36	1.38	0.423	229	2.00	1.10	0.55
HIP 67919	6.59	9.10	2.51	0.685	297	1.97	0.75	0.38
HIP 68532*	7.02	9.54	2.53	3.052	288	1.95	1.12	0.57
HIP 69113*	6.37	10.29	3.92	5.344	65	3.87	1.49	0.39
HIP 73937	6.23	8.37	2.14	0.242	191	2.94	1.11	0.38
HIP 78968	7.42	14.26	6.84	2.776	322	2.33	0.02	0.01
HIP 79739	7.08	11.23	4.15	0.959	118	2.32	0.16	0.07
HIP 79771	7.10	11.42	4.33	0.435	129	2.14	0.19	0.09
HIP 80799	7.45	9.80	2.35	2.940	205	1.86	0.34	0.18
HIP 80896	7.44	10.33	2.89	2.278	177	1.81	0.24	0.13
HIP 81949	7.33	15.52	8.19	5.269	341	2.26	0.02	0.01
HIP 81972	5.87	11.77	5.90	5.040	213	4.92	0.35	0.07
HIP 83542	5.38	9.90	4.52	8.864	196	1.10	0.91	0.83

Table A.3. Properties of the SHT dataset that we use in our analysis. Note that not all candidate companions are listed here, as in our analysis we only consider single stars and binary systems. The six members at the bottom of the list were not explicitly observed by SHT. Due to the presence of (known) close companions these were not suitable for wavefront sensing. We have included these targets for our analysis to avoid a bias towards low binarity.

HIP	$K_{S,1}$ mag	$K_{S,2}$ mag	ΔK_S mag	ρ arcsec	φ deg	M_1 M_\odot	M_2 M_\odot	q
HIP 55425	4.66	5.86	1.20	0.354	144	4.65	2.70	0.58
HIP 56561	3.17	6.81	3.64	0.734	135	8.30	2.22	0.27
HIP 58884	5.67	7.00	1.33	0.698	158	3.17	1.75	0.55
HIP 61585	3.41	10.94	7.53	4.853	198	6.30	0.19	0.03
HIP 63945	5.80	9.16	3.36	1.551	268	3.60	0.135	0.04
HIP 65271	5.12	7.03	1.91	0.164	135	4.25	1.80	0.42
HIP 67472	3.97	10.06	6.09	4.637	304	7.95	0.75	0.09
HIP 72683	5.27	6.84	1.57	0.099	86	4.52	2.17	0.48
HIP 72800	5.54	9.43	3.89	1.046	161	3.75	0.76	0.20
HIP 73334	4.09	5.46	1.37	0.128	156	7.83	5.33	0.68
HIP 75264	4.28	5.55	1.27	0.279	149	7.25	4.84	0.67
HIP 76945	5.79	9.47	3.68	0.507	133	3.50	0.80	0.23
HIP 77939	6.13	7.78	1.65	0.524	120	4.95	2.16	0.44
HIP 78820	3.86	6.80	2.94	0.292	171	11.20	2.98	0.27
HIP 79374	4.20	5.14	0.94	1.334	2	8.32	5.47	0.66
HIP 79530	6.31	8.07	1.76	1.693	220	3.23	1.35	0.42
HIP 80112	2.61	4.77	2.16	0.469	244	19.96	10.40	0.52
HIP 57851	–	–	–	1.549	158	4.15	1.83	0.44
HIP 62322	–	–	–	1.206	35	7.35	6.40	0.87
HIP 64425	–	–	–	0.185	7	4.07	3.10	0.76
HIP 74117	–	–	–	0.193	210	6.49	4.94	0.76
HIP 76371	–	–	–	2.150	8	5.75	2.79	0.49
HIP 77840	–	–	–	2.162	270	6.05	2.39	0.40

Table A.4. The LEV dataset used in this sample, consisting of 16 binaries with orbital elements (SB1 or SB2), and 23 radial velocity variables (RVV), for which no orbital elements are available. *Left:* the 16 spectroscopic binaries with orbital elements among the confirmed members of Sco OB2, in the LEV dataset. LEV observed 53 confirmed members of Sco OB2, of which 8 SB1s, 8 SB2s, 23 RVVs, and 14 targets with a constant radial velocity. *Right:* the 23 RVVs. Note that several of the RVVs may not be spectroscopic binaries, as radial velocity variation may also be caused by line profile variability.

HIP	P days	e	ω deg	Group	Radial velocity variables	
HIP 67464	2.6253	0.13	222	UCL	HIP 67472	HIP 68245
HIP 75647	3.8275	0.25	22	UCL	HIP 68862	HIP 70300
HIP 76297	2.8081	0.10	97	ULC	HIP 73334	HIP 74100
HIP 76503	5.2766	0.33	86	US	HIP 75141	HIP 75304
HIP 76600	3.2907	0.28	114	UCL	HIP 76633	HIP 77635
HIP 76945	12.26	0.19	83	UCL	HIP 77900	HIP 77939
HIP 77858	1.9235	0.36	309	US	HIP 78246	HIP 78384
HIP 77911	1.264	0.61	330	US	HIP 78530	HIP 78549
HIP 78104	4.0031	0.27	231	US	HIP 78655	HIP 79031
HIP 78168	10.0535	0.58	340	US	HIP 79374	HIP 79739
HIP 78265	1.5701	0.15	25	US	HIP 80024	HIP 81266
HIP 78820	6.8281	0.28	38	US	HIP 82545	
HIP 79404	5.7805	0.19	115	US		
HIP 79374	5.5521	0.11	267	US		
HIP 80112	34.23	0.36	308	US		
HIP 80569	138.8	0.44	325	US		