

# Binary Stars in the Orion Nebula Cluster<sup>★</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

We report on a high-spatial-resolution survey for binary stars in the periphery of the Orion Nebula Cluster, at 5–15 arcmin (0.65 – 2 pc) from the cluster center. We observed 228 stars with adaptive optics systems, in order to find companions at separations of 0'.13 – 1'.12 (60 – 500 AU), and detected 13 new binaries. Combined with the results of Petr (1998), we have a sample of 275 objects, about half of which have masses from the literature and high probabilities to be cluster members. We used an improved method to derive the completeness limits of the observations, which takes into account the elongated point spread function of stars at relatively large distances from the adaptive optics guide star. The multiplicity of stars with masses  $> 2 M_{\odot}$  is found to be significantly larger than that of low-mass stars. The companion star frequency of low-mass stars is comparable to that of main-sequence M-dwarfs, less than half that of solar-type main-sequence stars, and 3.5 to 5 times lower than in the Taurus-Auriga and Scorpius-Centaurus star-forming regions. We find the binary frequency of low-mass stars in the periphery of the cluster to be the same or only slightly higher than for stars in the cluster core ( $< 3$  arcmin from  $\theta^1$  C Ori). This is in contrast to the prediction of the theory that the low binary frequency in the cluster is caused by the disruption of binaries due to dynamical interactions. There are two ways out of this dilemma: Either the initial binary frequency in the Orion Nebula Cluster was lower than in Taurus-Auriga, or the Orion Nebula Cluster was originally much denser and dynamically more active.

**Key words.** stars: pre-main-sequence – binaries: visual – infrared: stars – surveys – techniques: high angular resolution

## 1. Introduction

Over the past decade it has become clear that stellar multiplicity can be very high among young low-mass stars, with companion star frequencies close to 100 % for young stars in well-known nearby star-forming T associations (Leinert et al. 1993, Ghez et al. 1993, Ghez et al. 1997, Duchêne 1999). Thus, our current understanding is that star formation resulting in binary or multiple systems is very common, if not the rule. However, the multiplicity of low-mass main-sequence field stars is significantly lower, only  $\sim 55$  % for solar-type stars (Duquennoy & Mayor 1991), and  $\sim 35$  to 42 % for M-dwarfs (Reid & Gizis 1997, Fischer & Marcy 1992).

On the other hand, high binary frequencies are *not* observed among low-mass stars in stellar clusters. Binary surveys in the center of the young Trapezium Cluster (e.g. Prosser et al. 1994, Padgett et al. 1997, Petr et al. 1998, Petr 1998, Simon et al. 1999, Scally et al. 1999, McCaughrean 2001), which is the core of the

Orion Nebula Cluster (ONC); and in the young clusters IC 348 and NGC 2024 (Duchêne et al. 1999, Beck et al. 2003, Liu et al. 2003, Luhmann et al. 2005), as well as those in older ZAMS clusters (Bouvier et al. 1997, Patience et al. 1998) show binary frequencies that are comparable to that of main-sequence field stars, i.e. lower by factors of 2 – 3 than those found in loose T associations. The reason for this discrepancy is still unclear. Theoretical explanations include:

- Disruption of cluster binaries through stellar encounters. Kroupa (1995) and Kroupa et al. (1999) suggested that dynamical disruption of wide binaries (separations  $> 100$  AU) through close stellar encounters decreases the binary fraction in clusters. If the primordial binary output from the star-formation process is the same in dense clusters and in loose T associations, then the number of “surviving” binaries depends on the number of interactions of a binary system with other cluster members that occurred since the formation of the cluster. This number is derived from the age of the cluster divided by the typical time between stellar interactions. The typical time between interactions is inversely proportional to the stellar volume density of the cluster (Scally et al. 1999), thus binaries at the cluster center get destroyed more quickly than those at larger radii. Observing various subregions of a single star-forming cluster representing different stellar number densities will therefore reveal different binary fractions if

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this mechanism is dominant in the evolution of binary systems.

- Environmental influence on the initial binary fraction. Durisen & Sterzik (1994) and Sterzik et al. (2003) suggested an influence of the molecular cores' temperature on the efficiency of the fragmentation mechanism that leads to the formation of binaries. Lower binary fractions are predicted in warmer cores. Assuming the ONC stars formed from warmer cores than the members of the Taurus-Auriga association, less initial binaries are produced in this scenario. Observations of different subregions of the ONC should therefore reveal the same (low) binary frequency (if the molecular cores in these regions had the same temperature – a reasonable, though unverifiable assumption).

These theoretical concepts make different predictions that can be tested observationally. Indeed, measuring the binary fraction as a function of distance to the cluster center will provide important observational support for one or the other proposed theoretical explanation.

The ONC is the best target for this study. Its stellar population is very well studied, more than 2000 members are known from extensive near-infrared and optical imaging (Hillenbrand 1997, Hillenbrand & Carpenter 2000). To date, binary surveys of the cluster have focused on the central 0.25 pc core, where the stellar density reaches as high as  $2 - 5 \times 10^4 \text{ pc}^{-3}$  (McCaughrean & Stauffer 1994, Hillenbrand & Hartmann 1998). The typical time between interactions for a binary with a separation of 250 AU ( $\sim 0.5$  at the distance of the ONC) in the core is  $\sim 1$  Myr, the age of the cluster. Therefore, most 250 AU binaries are likely to have experienced at least one close encounter. However, for the observed stellar density distribution of the cluster, which can be described by an isothermal sphere with  $n \propto r^{-2}$  outside 0.06 pc (Bate et al. 1998), the volume density at  $\sim 1$  pc distance from the center ( $\sim 8'$  at the distance of the ONC) is roughly  $200 \text{ pc}^{-3}$  and the interaction timescale for our 250 AU binary would be  $> 250$  Myr, hundreds of times the age of the cluster. We also know that dynamical mass segregation in the cluster has not yet occurred (Bonnell & Davies 1998) and that the ejection of single stars from the inner parts of the cluster (where many binary disruptions have already occurred) has not been efficient to populate the outer regions if the whole cluster is roughly virialized (Kroupa et al. 1999). For these reasons, the binary fraction in the outer parts of the ONC is unlikely to have been modified by the dynamical evolution of the cluster, and should be the intrinsic value resulting from the fragmentation process, while the binary frequency of stars in the cluster core has already been lowered by dynamical interactions.

We have measured the frequency of close binaries among stars in a number of fields in the outer part of the ONC using adaptive optics imaging in the K-band. The results we obtain in this survey for the outskirts of the Orion Nebula Cluster will be compared with a similar study of the ONC core, carried out by Petr et al. (1998) and Petr (1998). Since the same instrument and observing strategy was used, we incorporate their results, and constrain the radial distribution of the binary frequency from the ONC core to the cluster's periphery.

## 2. Observations

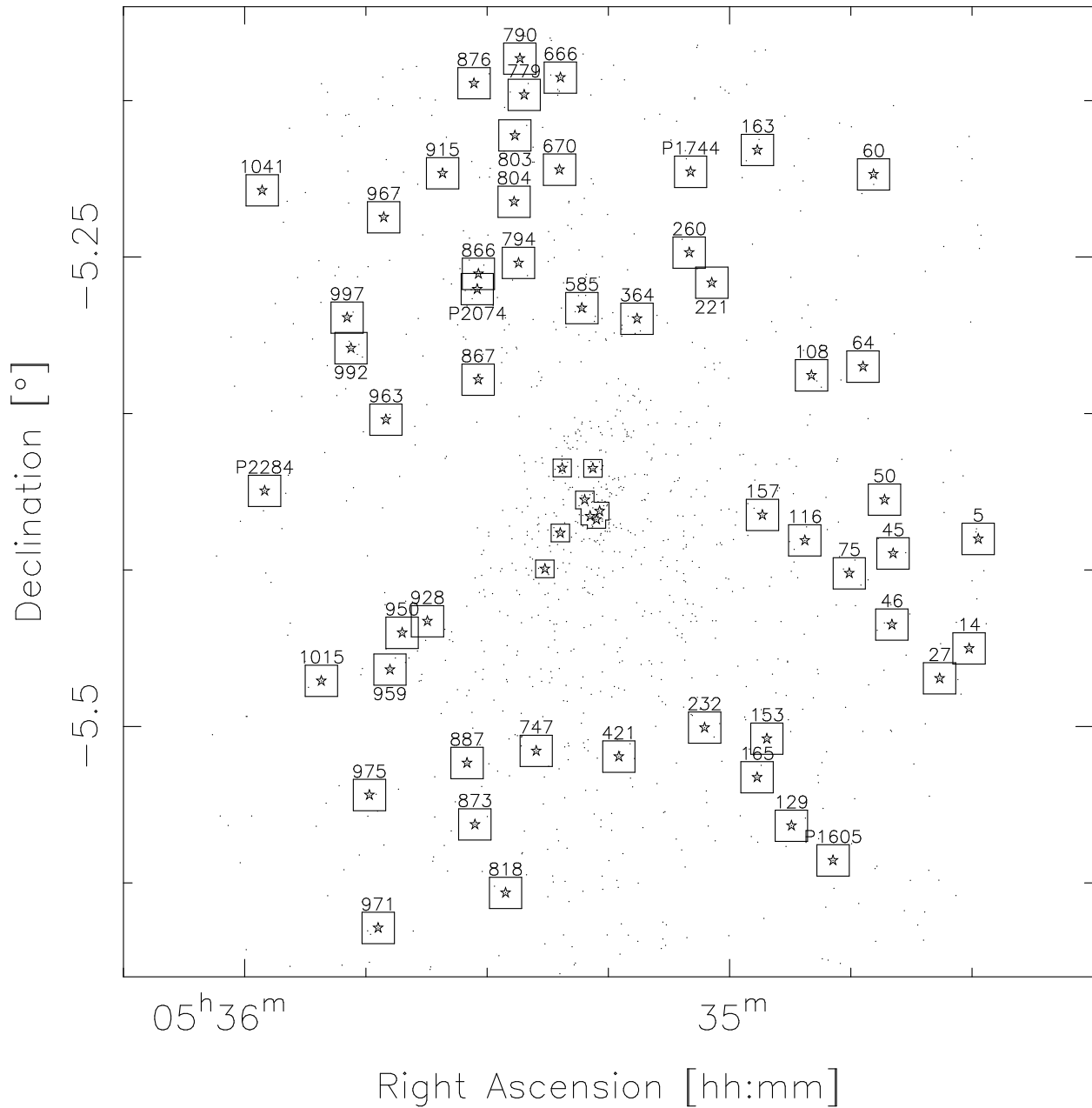
Since our study concentrates on the detection of close binary or multiple stars with sub-arcsecond separations, it is necessary to use an imaging technique that provides the required performance in terms of high spatial resolution and sensitivity. Therefore, we

**Table 1.** Fields observed for this work. Name is the designation in Jones & Walker (1988) or Parenago (1954) of the central star that was used to guide the adaptive optics system,  $r$  is the distance to  $\theta^1$ C Ori. In the last columns, we list the number of stars actually observed in this field and the date(s) of observation.

| Name    | $\alpha_{2000}$ | $\delta_{2000}$ | $r$ ['] | Targets | Obs. Date                |
|---------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|---------|--------------------------|
| JW0005  | 5:34:29.243     | -5:24:00.37     | 11.8    | 6       | 09.12.2001               |
| JW0014  | 5:34:30.371     | -5:27:30.46     | 12.2    | 2       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0027  | 5:34:34.012     | -5:28:27.72     | 11.8    | 4       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0045  | 5:34:39.774     | -5:24:28.27     | 9.2     | 4       | 10.12.2001               |
| JW0046  | 5:34:39.917     | -5:26:44.70     | 9.7     | 5       | 10.12.2001               |
| JW0050  | 5:34:40.831     | -5:22:45.07     | 8.9     | 1       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0060  | 5:34:42.187     | -5:12:21.55     | 14.0    | 2       | 10.12.2001               |
| JW0064  | 5:34:43.496     | -5:18:30.01     | 9.6     | 3       | 17.02.2002               |
| JW0075  | 5:34:45.188     | -5:25:06.33     | 8.0     | 7       | 09.12.2001               |
| JW0108  | 5:34:49.867     | -5:18:46.79     | 8.1     | 3       | 10.12.2001               |
| JW0116  | 5:34:50.691     | -5:24:03.25     | 6.5     | 5       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0129  | 5:34:52.347     | -5:33:10.38     | 11.5    | 4       | 10.12.2001               |
| JW0153  | 5:34:55.390     | -5:30:23.42     | 8.8     | 2       | 17.02.2002               |
| JW0157  | 5:34:55.936     | -5:23:14.58     | 5.1     | 4       | 17.02.2002               |
| JW0163  | 5:34:56.560     | -5:11:34.84     | 12.8    | 3       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0165  | 5:34:56.601     | -5:31:37.48     | 9.6     | 2       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0221  | 5:35:02.202     | -5:15:49.28     | 8.4     | 4       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0232  | 5:35:03.090     | -5:30:02.27     | 7.5     | 5       | 09.12.2001               |
| JW0260  | 5:35:04.999     | -5:14:51.45     | 9.0     | 3       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0364  | 5:35:11.455     | -5:16:58.33     | 6.5     | 13      | 09.12.2001               |
| JW0421  | 5:35:13.706     | -5:30:57.76     | 7.6     | 5       | 11.12.2001<br>17.02.2002 |
| JW0585  | 5:35:18.275     | -5:16:37.83     | 6.8     | 17      | 09.12.2001               |
| JW0666  | 5:35:20.936     | -5:09:15.92     | 14.2    | 8       | 09.12.2001               |
| JW0670  | 5:35:21.043     | -5:12:12.52     | 11.2    | 2       | 17.02.2002               |
| JW0747  | 5:35:23.929     | -5:30:46.82     | 7.6     | 5       | 10.12.2001               |
| JW0779  | 5:35:25.417     | -5:09:48.98     | 13.8    | 11      | 09.12.2001               |
| JW0790  | 5:35:25.953     | -5:08:39.42     | 14.9    | 5       | 10.12.2001               |
| JW0794  | 5:35:26.121     | -5:15:11.27     | 8.5     | 6       | 09.12.2001               |
| JW0803  | 5:35:26.565     | -5:11:06.84     | 12.5    | 4       | 10.12.2001               |
| JW0804  | 5:35:26.666     | -5:13:13.97     | 10.5    | 1       | 17.02.2002               |
| JW0818  | 5:35:27.716     | -5:35:19.01     | 12.3    | 2       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0866  | 5:35:31.077     | -5:15:32.23     | 8.7     | 4       | 09.12.2001               |
| JW0867  | 5:35:31.116     | -5:18:55.12     | 5.8     | 3       | 09.12.2001               |
| JW0873  | 5:35:31.521     | -5:33:07.91     | 10.5    | 6       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0876  | 5:35:31.627     | -5:09:26.88     | 14.4    | 3       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0887  | 5:35:32.487     | -5:31:10.05     | 8.8     | 1       | 17.02.2002               |
| JW0915  | 5:35:35.509     | -5:12:19.38     | 12.0    | 2       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0928  | 5:35:37.385     | -5:26:38.20     | 6.2     | 4       | 10.12.2001               |
| JW0950  | 5:35:40.519     | -5:27:00.48     | 7.0     | 4       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0959  | 5:35:42.019     | -5:28:10.95     | 8.0     | 5       | 10.12.2001               |
| JW0963  | 5:35:42.528     | -5:20:11.73     | 7.3     | 5       | 09.12.2001               |
| JW0967  | 5:35:42.803     | -5:13:43.69     | 11.7    | 1       | 17.02.2002               |
| JW0971  | 5:35:43.476     | -5:36:26.22     | 14.7    | 4       | 10.12.2001               |
| JW0975  | 5:35:44.558     | -5:32:11.40     | 11.3    | 3       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW0992  | 5:35:46.845     | -5:17:54.69     | 9.4     | 6       | 09.12.2001               |
| JW0997  | 5:35:47.326     | -5:16:56.01     | 10.1    | 4       | 11.12.2001               |
| JW1015  | 5:35:50.509     | -5:28:32.56     | 10.0    | 2       | 10.12.2001               |
| JW1041  | 5:35:57.831     | -5:12:52.17     | 14.8    | 1       | 17.02.2002               |
| Par1605 | 5:34:47.201     | -5:34:16.76     | 13.1    | 3       | 10.12.2001               |
| Par1744 | 5:35:04.822     | -5:12:16.61     | 11.5    | 4       | 11.12.2001               |
| Par2074 | 5:35:31.223     | -5:16:01.54     | 8.2     | 13      | 09.12.2001<br>17.02.2002 |
| Par2284 | 5:35:57.539     | -5:22:28.21     | 10.3    | 2       | 17.02.2002               |

carried out adaptive optics near-infrared imaging at ESO's 3.6 m telescope and the Keck II telescope using their respective adaptive optics instruments.

The choice of our target fields in the Orion Nebula cluster was mainly guided by two criteria. First, the necessity of having a nearby (within  $\sim 30''$ ) optically bright reference star



**Fig. 1.** Fields observed in this work (large boxes) and Petr (1998, small boxes in the central region). Dots mark the positions of all stars in the list of Jones & Walker (1988), these are *not* the stars observed by us. The stars used to guide the adaptive optics are marked by star symbols and their number in Jones & Walker or Parenago (1954). The large boxes show the areas where we selected our target stars. These fields were not fully covered by our observations, we only observed stars visible in the 2MASS quicklook images (see Sect. 2).

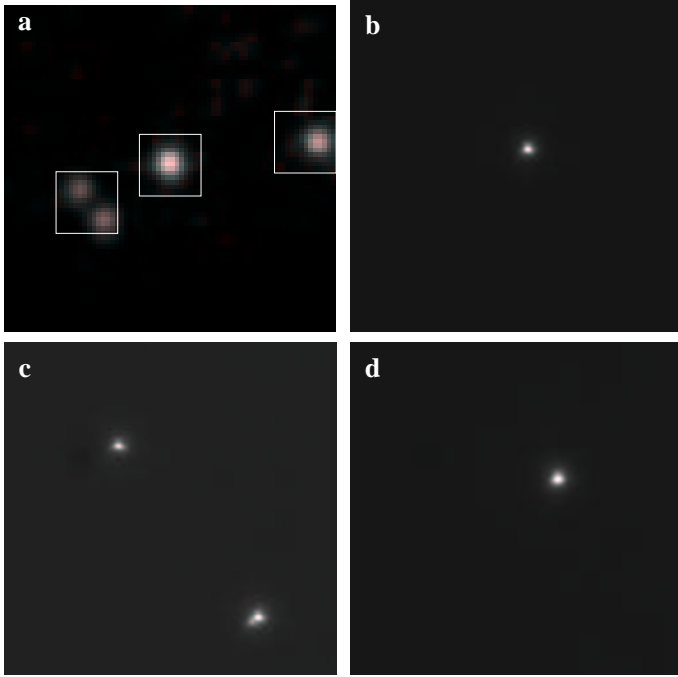
that controls the wavefront correction in order to obtain (nearly) diffraction-limited images. Second, the fields should be located at radii larger than 5 arcmin from the cluster center.

Based on these criteria, we searched the catalogues of Jones & Walker (1988, JW hereafter) and Parenago (1954) for stars with  $I < 12.5^m$  and located at radii of 5–15 arcmin (0.65 – 2 pc) from the cluster center. The resulting list contains 57 objects, 52 of them were observed in the course of this project (see Tab. 1 and Fig. 1). The remaining fields had to be omitted because of time constraints.

Since the field of view's of the used instruments are at most  $12''.8 \times 12''.8$ , it would have been very inefficient to completely survey the fields around each guide star. Instead, we used quicklook-images from the 2MASS database to find stars within

$30''$  from the guide stars, and pointed only at these sources. Therefore, we did *not* observe all stars within  $30''$  from a guide star, but only those visible in 2MASS quicklook-images. The 2MASS survey is complete to at least  $K_s = 14^{\text{mag}}$  (except in crowded regions), so we can be sure all stars down to this magnitude are visible in the quicklook-images and have been observed by us. Our estimated masses (Sect. 4.2) indicate that this probably already includes a few brown dwarfs, so the number of interesting targets (low-mass stars) missed by this procedure is negligible.

Figure 2 shows as an example the 2MASS quicklook-image of the region around JW0971, and our AO-corrected images.



**Fig. 2.** The field around JW0971 as an example of our observations. North is up and East is to the left in all images. The field-of-view in image a is about  $70 \times 70''$ , while the field-of-view in images b, c, and d is about  $12 \times 12''$ . a: The 2MASS-quicklook image centered on JW0971. The positions of the images obtained with the AO system ADONIS are outlined. b: The AO-corrected image centered on the guide star, JW0971. c: The AO-corrected image of the two stars south-east of JW0971. The star to the southwest is JW0974 and has a companion at  $0.32''$  separation (cf. Tab. 2). d: The AO-corrected image centered on the star west of JW0971.

### 2.1. ESO 3.6m/ADONIS observations

The major part of the observations was carried out during three nights in December 2001 at the ESO 3.6 m telescope on La Silla. We used the adaptive optics system ADONIS with the SHARP II camera to obtain nearly-diffraction limited images in the  $K_s$ -band ( $2.154\mu\text{m}$ ). The pixel scale was  $50 \text{ mas/pixel}$ , which provides full Nyquist sampling at  $2.2\mu\text{m}$ . Since SHARP II is equipped with a  $256 \times 256$  pixels NICMOS 3 array detector, the field-of-view is  $12''.8 \times 12''.8$ . During the first observing night, we typically recorded for each target star 20 frames with 3 sec individual exposure time, while during the second and third night 20 frames of 5 sec each were taken per object. After all targets near one guide star were observed (which took on average 4, at most 9 pointings), we observed an empty field at about one arcminute distance from the guide star to determine the sky background. Measuring the sky background every 20 minutes is enough for the purpose of this project, i.e. astrometry.<sup>1</sup>

### 2.2. KeckII/NIRC2 observations

In February 2002, eleven fields were observed in one half night at the Keck II telescope. We used the adaptive optics system and the NIRC 2 camera with the  $K_p$  filter ( $2.124\mu\text{m}$ ). NIRC 2 offers the choice of three different pixel scales: 10, 20, or  $40 \text{ mas/pixel}$ . The  $40 \text{ mas/pixel}$  scale does not allow Nyquist

<sup>1</sup> The photometric measurements obtained in the course of the data reduction were used only to solve ambiguous cases in the identification of our objects in photometric catalogues.

sampling in the K-band, and the  $20 \text{ mas/pixel}$  optics has significant field curvature, therefore we decided to use the  $10 \text{ mas/pixel}$  camera in order to achieve the full resolution over the whole field-of-view. The detector has a  $1024 \times 1024$  Aladdin-3 array, so the field-of-view is about  $10'' \times 10''$ . The integration time was 60 sec per target (20 co-adds of 3 sec each). The one exception is Parenago 2074, which was saturated in 3 sec. Here we took more frames with 0.25 sec exposure time, resulting in about 20 sec total integration time. Exposures of the sky background were done in the same way as during the observations with ADONIS.

## 3. Data Reduction

Images were sky-subtracted with a median sky image and flat fielded by an appropriate flat defined by dome-flat illumination. Bad pixels were replaced by the median of the closest good neighbors. Finally images were visually inspected for any artifacts or residuals.

The daophot package within IRAF<sup>2</sup> was used to identify stars and measure their positions and magnitudes. First, we used the daofind task to identify stars. All images were inspected visually to confirm the detections, the parameters of daofind (in particular, the threshold) were adjusted to make sure no stars were missed by the automatic procedure. Then we used the phot task to carry out aperture photometry of the sources found. The aperture radius was  $1''$  in order to make sure no flux was lost in the wings of the PSF.

We count pairs of stars separated by  $1''.12$  (500 AU) or less as binary candidates (not all of them are gravitationally bound binaries, see Sect. 4.4). Daofind is unable to reliably detect binary sources with such small separations, therefore all detected stars had to be inspected visually to identify binaries. An aperture with  $1''$  radius measures flux from both components in these cases, therefore the phot task was run again on the binaries, with apertures adjusted for each individual binary to measure the individual fluxes without contamination of the secondary by the primary and vice versa. The results of these measurements were used to compute the exact separations, position angles, total fluxes, and flux ratios of the binary stars.

## 4. Results

### 4.1. Stellar detections and Binaries

In total, we observed 228 stars in 52 fields (see Tab. 1 and Fig. 1)<sup>3</sup>. Stars located within  $1''$  from one of the edges of the images are not counted, to ensure that our binary census is as unbiased as possible.

We are sensitive to companions at separations in the range  $0''.13 - 1''.12$  or  $60 - 500 \text{ AU}$  at the distance of the ONC (450 pc). The lower limit is the diffraction limit of the 3.6 m telescope in K, the outer limit was chosen to limit the number of chance alignments of unrelated stars (see section 4.4). These limits are the same as those used by Petr (1998) for their binary survey in the center of the ONC.

We find 13 binary candidates in the separation range  $0''.13 - 1''.12$ . No higher-order multiples were found, which is not surprising given the limited separation range. Table 2 lists the binaries, their separations, magnitude differences, their ID number in

<sup>2</sup> IRAF is distributed by the National Optical Astronomy Observatories, which are operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc., under cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation.

<sup>3</sup> The complete target list is available online.

**Table 2.** New ONC Binaries found in this work. Names with “JW” are from Jones & Walker 1988, those with “AD95” from Ali & Depoy 1995, and Par2074 is from Parenago (1954). The distance to  $\theta^1$ C is listed as  $r$  like in Tab. 1. The last three columns list identification, mass from H97 and from IR photometry, and membership probability given in H97.

| Name      | $\alpha_{2000}$ | $\delta_{2000}$ | $r$ ['] | Separation ["]  | $\Delta K$ [mag] | H97 id | H97 mass | IR mass | Mem. [%] |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|------------------|--------|----------|---------|----------|
| JW0235    | 5:35:03.586     | -5:29:27.06     | 6.87    | $0.48 \pm 0.01$ | $0.47 \pm 0.15$  | 235    |          | 0.5     |          |
| JW0260    | 5:35:04.999     | -5:14:51.45     | 9.00    | $0.33 \pm 0.01$ | $0.17 \pm 0.05$  | 260    | 4.13     | 3.5     | 97       |
| AD95 2380 | 5:35:12.328     | -5:16:34.04     | 6.89    | $0.59 \pm 0.02$ | $2.99 \pm 0.15$  |        |          | 3.0     |          |
| JW0406    | 5:35:13.299     | -5:17:09.98     | 6.27    | $0.94 \pm 0.01$ | $1.19 \pm 0.06$  | 406    | 0.21     | 1.5     | 99       |
| JW0566    | 5:35:17.756     | -5:16:14.68     | 7.15    | $0.85 \pm 0.02$ | $1.73 \pm 0.06$  | 566    |          |         | 0        |
| AD95 1468 | 5:35:17.352     | -5:16:13.62     | 7.16    | $1.08 \pm 0.01$ | $0.10 \pm 0.05$  |        |          |         |          |
| JW0765    | 5:35:24.892     | -5:09:27.87     | 14.08   | $0.35 \pm 0.02$ | $0.06 \pm 0.10$  | 765    | 0.19     | 0.5     | 97       |
| JW0767    | 5:35:25.087     | -5:15:35.73     | 8.08    | $1.10 \pm 0.01$ | $1.99 \pm 0.10$  | 767    | 0.26     | 1.0     | 99       |
| JW0804    | 5:35:26.666     | -5:13:13.97     | 10.47   | $0.40 \pm 0.01$ | $4.1 \pm 0.2$    | 804    | 1.65     | 1.2     | 0        |
| JW0876    | 5:35:31.627     | -5:09:26.88     | 14.44   | $0.49 \pm 0.01$ | $0.50 \pm 0.05$  | 876    | 0.84     | 3.5     | 13       |
| JW0959    | 5:35:42.019     | -5:28:10.95     | 7.99    | $0.34 \pm 0.01$ | $0.07 \pm 0.03$  | 959    | 2.41     | 2.7     | 97       |
| JW0974    | 5:35:44.417     | -5:36:38.02     | 14.98   | $0.32 \pm 0.02$ | $1.41 \pm 0.05$  | 974    | 0.14     | 0.3     | 99       |
| Par2074   | 5:35:31.223     | -5:16:01.54     | 8.23    | $0.47 \pm 0.01$ | $3.23 \pm 0.10$  | 2074   | 16.3     | >4      | 99       |

Hillenbrand (1997), mass estimates and probability to be cluster members. Figure 3 shows images of the binary stars.

Some of the binaries have a rather low membership probability. On the one hand, it would not be surprising to find binary foreground stars. On the other hand, there is some evidence that membership probabilities based on proper motions may be underestimated. Hillenbrand (1997) report that several of the sources identified as being externally ionized by the massive Trapezium stars (and, therefore, physically close to these stars) are designated as proper motion non-members. Furthermore, the proper motions of undetected binaries can have systematic errors due to orbital motion or photometric variability (Wielen 1997), leading to misclassification as non-members. In the analysis in Sect. 5, we will consider two samples: one containing only stars with membership probabilities higher than 50%, and one with all stars for which mass estimates could be obtained, including those with zero membership probability.

#### 4.2. Selection of the Low- and Intermediate- to High-mass Samples

The multiplicity of high- and low-mass stars in the ONC is significantly different (Sect. 5.1, Preibisch et al. 1999, Preibisch et al. 2001, Schertl et al. 2003 and references therein). Therefore, we have to select suitable subsamples of our target list in order to obtain meaningful results. Probably the best mass estimates for stars in the ONC were given by Hillenbrand (1997, H97 hereafter), who used spectroscopic and photometric data to create an HR diagram. Comparison with theoretical pre-main-sequence evolutionary tracks of D’Antona & Mazzitelli (1994) yielded the mass and age of each star. From their work, we can get masses for 126 stars in our sample, and 40 stars in the sample of Petr (1998). The accuracy of masses predicted by evolutionary tracks is limited, as most models are only marginally consistent with masses determined from measured orbital dynamics (Hillenbrand & White 2004). However, in this work the mass estimates are only used to distinguish between intermediate- to high-mass stars, low-mass stars, and potential sub-stellar objects, so the results are not affected by systematic discrepancies.

To obtain mass estimates for a larger fraction of our sample, we use 2MASS photometry in the J- and H-band to construct a color-magnitude diagram (CMD, Fig. 4). We decided to use J and H because the photometry in these bands is less affected by infrared excess emission of circumstellar material than K-band photometry. To estimate masses, we de-redden the

stars along the standard extinction vector for Orion (Johnson 1967) and search the intersection of the vector with the 1 Myr isochrone of the theoretical pre-main-sequence tracks of Baraffe et al. (1998) for masses below  $1.4 M_{\odot}$  and Siess et al. (2000) for masses above  $1.4 M_{\odot}$ . The agreement between these two sets of tracks is reasonably good, and the transition point has been chosen to minimise the difference.

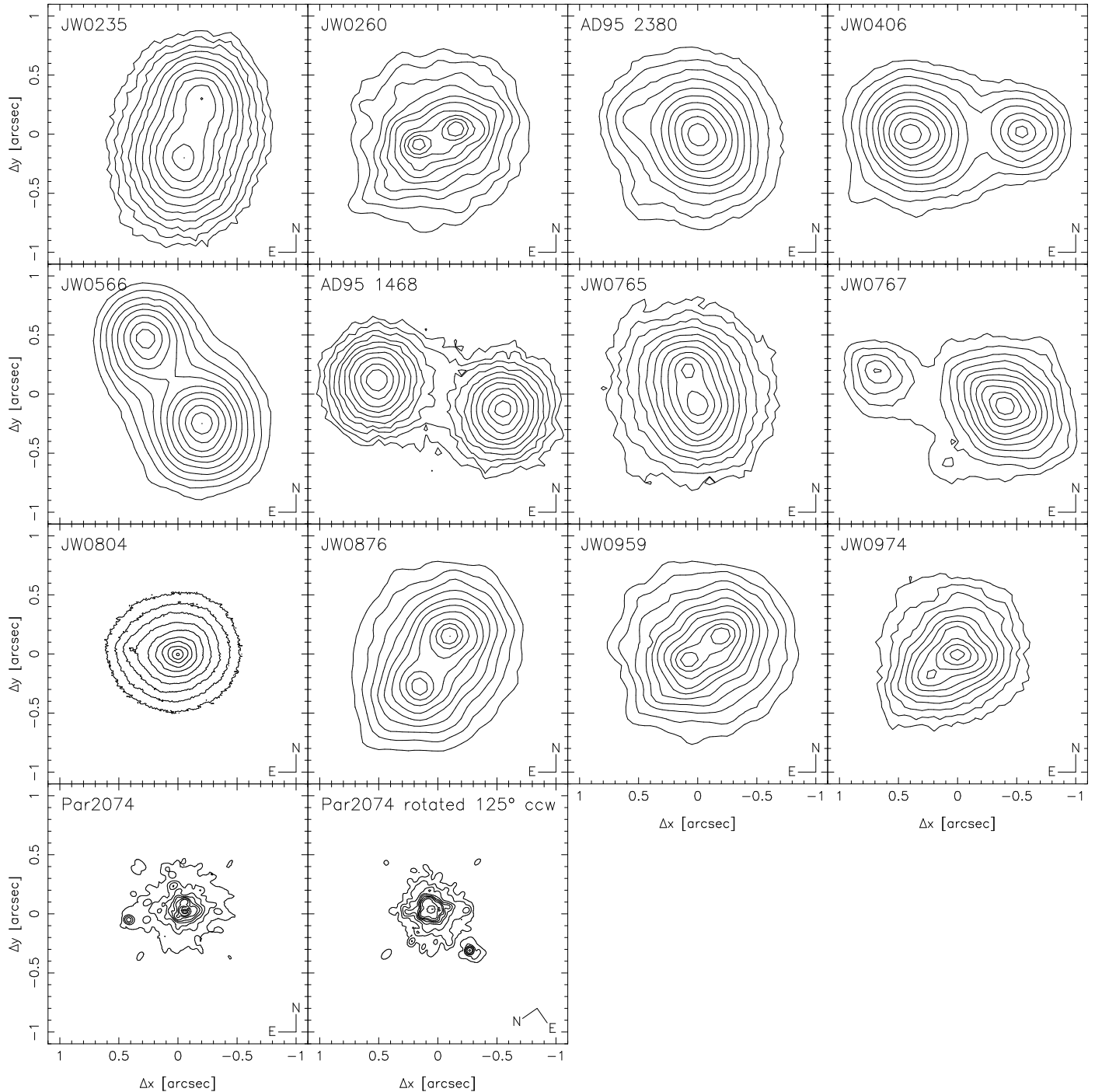
In cases where a star falls to the left (blueward) of the isochrone, we adopt the mass of the model that has the same J-magnitude, i.e. we do not follow the direction of the extinction vector, but shift the star horizontally onto the isochrone. This procedure is reasonable, since the measurement error of  $J - H$  is much larger than that of  $J$  (see the error bars in the lower left of Fig. 4)<sup>4</sup>. In this way, we can obtain mass estimates for 173 stars. Combined with the results from H97, we have mass estimates for 187 stars.

For the selection of the sub-samples, we used the following limits: Stars with masses of at least  $2 M_{\odot}$  are the intermediate- to high-mass sample (28 stars, 4 binaries), those with masses between  $0.1$  and  $2 M_{\odot}$  form the low-mass sample (146 stars, 7 binaries), and we designate objects with mass estimates below  $0.1 M_{\odot}$  as sub-stellar candidates (14 objects, no binaries). Changing the upper limit of the low-mass sample to, e.g.,  $1.3 M_{\odot}$  does not change our conclusions, it only reduces their statistical significance.

A similar procedure was carried out for the target list of Petr (1998), using infrared photometry from Muench et al. (2002), which yielded 124 mass estimates: 22 intermediate- to high-mass stars (6 binaries), 83 low-mass stars (82 systems, 6 binaries), and 19 sub-stellar candidates (no binaries).

For 152 stars, we have masses from both H97 and IR-photometry, Fig. 5 shows a comparison of mass estimates obtained in both ways. On average, the method using J and H photometry overestimates the masses compared to H97 by a factor of 1.3. This could be caused by a number of reasons, for example infrared excess due to circumstellar disks. While the contribution of disks is smaller for shorter wavelengths (which is the reason why we choose to estimate masses from J- and H-band fluxes), it still is not negligible. We also derived masses from J and K or H and K photometry, but we found them to be less consistent with H97, which is the expected result if infrared excess is present. Another possible reason for the overestimated masses could be

<sup>4</sup> Many of the stars to the left of the isochrone have a low probability to be members of the Orion Nebula Cluster (cf. JW)

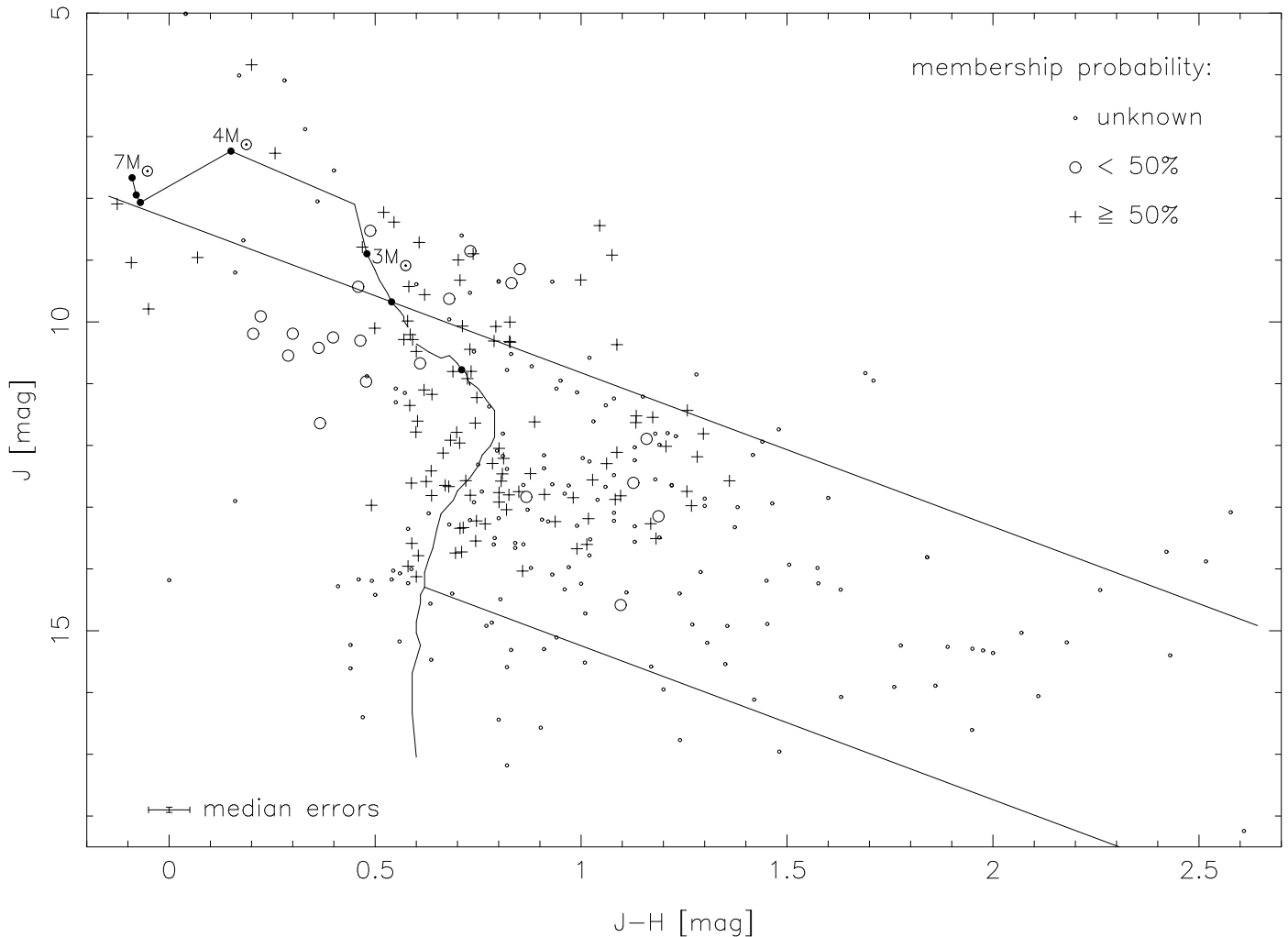


**Fig. 3.** Images of the 13 binaries found in this work, shown with a logarithmic scale. North is up and east is left, except for the last image. Because Parenago 2074 is the brightest star we observed with the Keck telescope, it suffers from unusually strong diffraction spikes, and it was unclear from a single image whether the candidate companion we had found was a physical object or an instrumental artefact. We therefore rotated the field-of-view by  $125^\circ$  and repeated the observation. The companion rotated by the same angle, which proves its physical nature.

the different PMS tracks used in H97 and this work. H97 used the tracks by D’Antona & Mazzitelli (1994), which are known to underestimate masses (Hillenbrand & White 2004). We prefer the tracks by Baraffe et al. (1998) and Siess et al. (2000) because they give magnitudes in infrared bands, so no additional transformation is needed. Hillenbrand & White (2004) show that the masses in the range  $0.5$  to  $1.2 M_\odot$  predicted by the Baraffe et al. models are more consistent with dynamical masses than those predicted by other models. For higher masses, Hillenbrand

& White find good agreement between predicted and dynamical masses for all models, including those of Siess et al.

These mass estimates are good enough for our purposes, since they are only used to classify the stars as intermediate- to high-mass ( $M > 2 M_\odot$ ), low-mass ( $0.1 M_\odot < M < 2 M_\odot$ ), or sub-stellar candidates ( $M < 0.1 M_\odot$ ). The number of systems that might be misclassified because of inaccurate mass estimates is small and does not affect our conclusions.



**Fig. 4.** Color-Magnitude diagram for ONC stars with IR-photometry from 2MASS or Muench et al. (2002). The symbols denote proper motion members, non-members, and stars without membership information. Median errors are indicated in the lower left. Also shown is the theoretical 1 Myr isochrone of the models of Baraffe et al. (1998) and Siess et al. (2000). The transition from one set of models to the other between  $1.4 M_{\odot}$  and  $1.5 M_{\odot}$  is indicated by a gap in the isochrone line between  $J = 10.1^m$  and  $10.4^m$ . The dots on the isochrone mark the 1, 2, 3 ...  $7 M_{\odot}$  models. The straight lines show the extinction vectors through the 0.1 and  $2 M_{\odot}$  models. The isochrone turns downward again for masses  $> 4 M_{\odot}$ , making it impossible to distinguish a highly-extincted star with, e.g.,  $4.5 M_{\odot}$  from a less-extincted star of  $\sim 3 M_{\odot}$ . The extinction vector through the  $2 M_{\odot}$  model has been extended backwards to demonstrate that this ambiguity does not exist for masses  $< 2 M_{\odot}$ . We adopt  $2 M_{\odot}$  as limit to classify our stars as low-mass or intermediate- to high-mass.

### 4.3. Sensitivity Limits and Completeness

The sensitivity of AO observations to close companions depends on many factors, e.g. the telescope and instrument used, the atmospheric conditions, the brightness of the guide star, and the distance from the guide star to the target. Since the images of target stars separated by more than  $\approx 30''$  from the guide star are elongated due to anisoplanatism (cf. Fig. 6), the sensitivity for close companions depends also on the position angle. All these factors vary considerably in our survey; it is therefore impossible to give a single sensitivity limit. Instead, we use a statistical approach.

In Sect. 4.3.1, we describe how we measure the completeness of the observation of one target star. The result is a limiting magnitude difference as function of separation and position angle. We convert this into a map giving the *probability* to detect a companion as function of separation and magnitude difference.

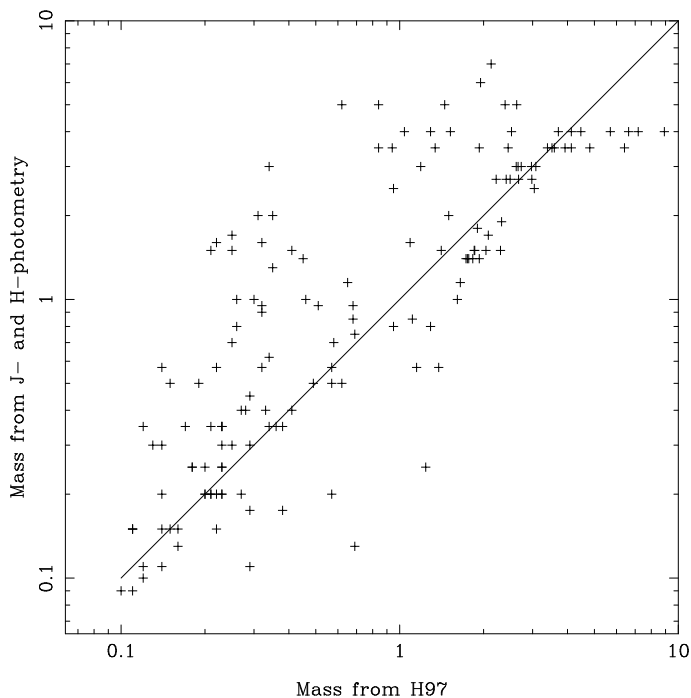
In Sect. 4.3.2, we explain how the completeness maps of several stars are combined into one map for the sample, and how the

corrections are computed that allow us to compare samples with different completeness levels.

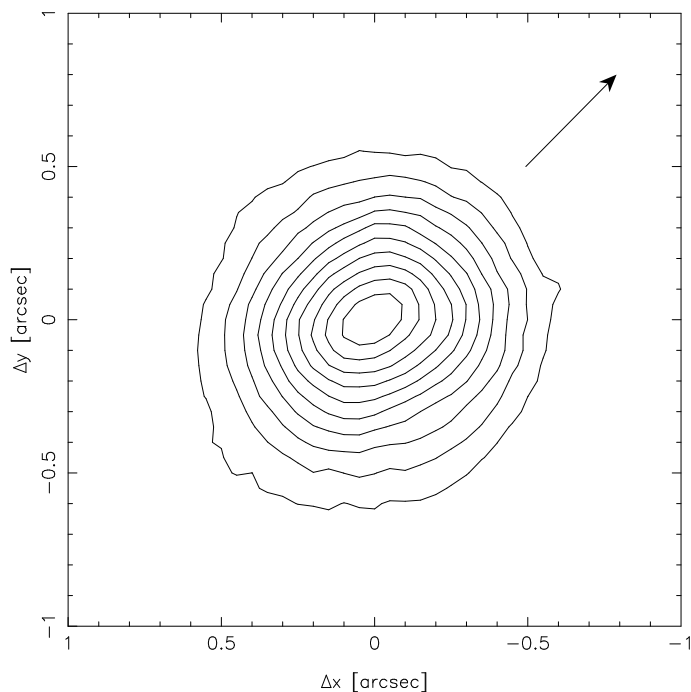
#### 4.3.1. Completeness of a Single Observation

We start with a single target star and measure the sensitivity for companions at various positions in the image. In order to obtain estimates for the sensitivity of all targets, an automated procedure was used, which is based on the statistics of background fluctuations.

For this method, we compute the standard deviation of the pixel values in a  $3 \times 8$  pixel box. The short axis is oriented in radial direction from the star, since the sensitivity varies over much shorter scales in radial than in azimuthal direction. Five sigma is adopted as the maximum peak height of an undetected companion. This peak height is compared to the height of the central peak (i.e. that of the primary star) to compute the magnitude difference. The procedure was repeated at 180 different position angles and 100 separations between  $0''.02$  and  $2''$ . This



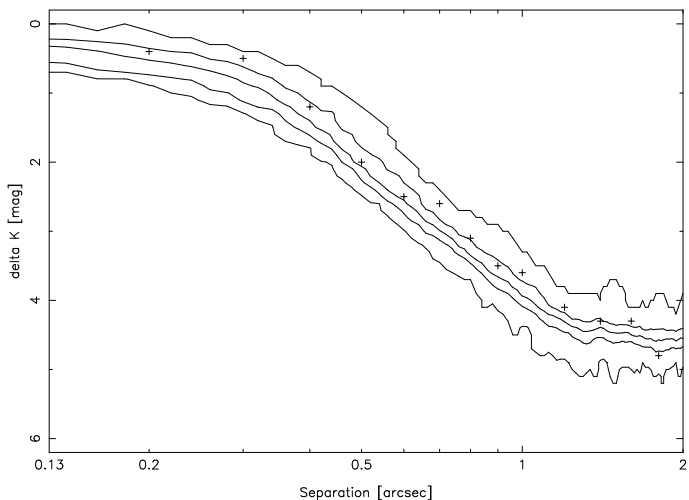
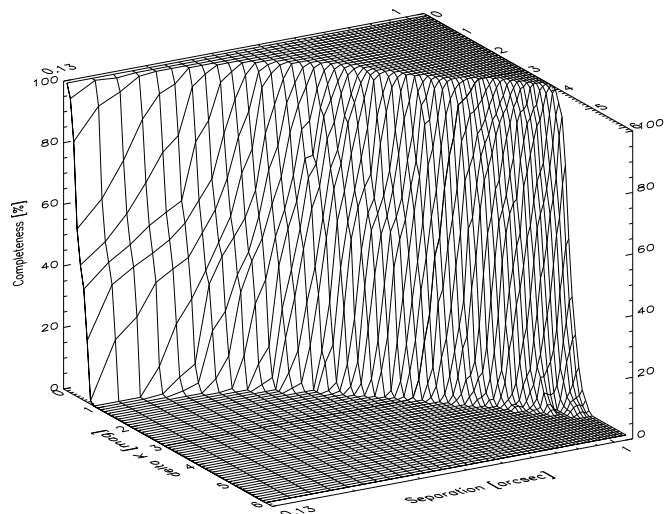
**Fig. 5.** Comparison of masses from H97 and estimated from 2MASS or Muench et al. (2002) J- and H-photometry. The line marks the points where both mass estimates are equal.



**Fig. 6.** Our AO-corrected image of the star 42'5 south-east of JW0950, which was used as AO guide star. At such large distances from the guide star, anisoplanatism leads to rather poor correction, which causes elongated star images with rather large FWHM. The arrow indicates the direction to the guide star.

gives the limiting magnitude difference as a function of separation and position angle.

We are not interested in the completeness limit at a particular position angle. Instead, we would like to know the probability to detect a companion at a given separation and magnitude differ-



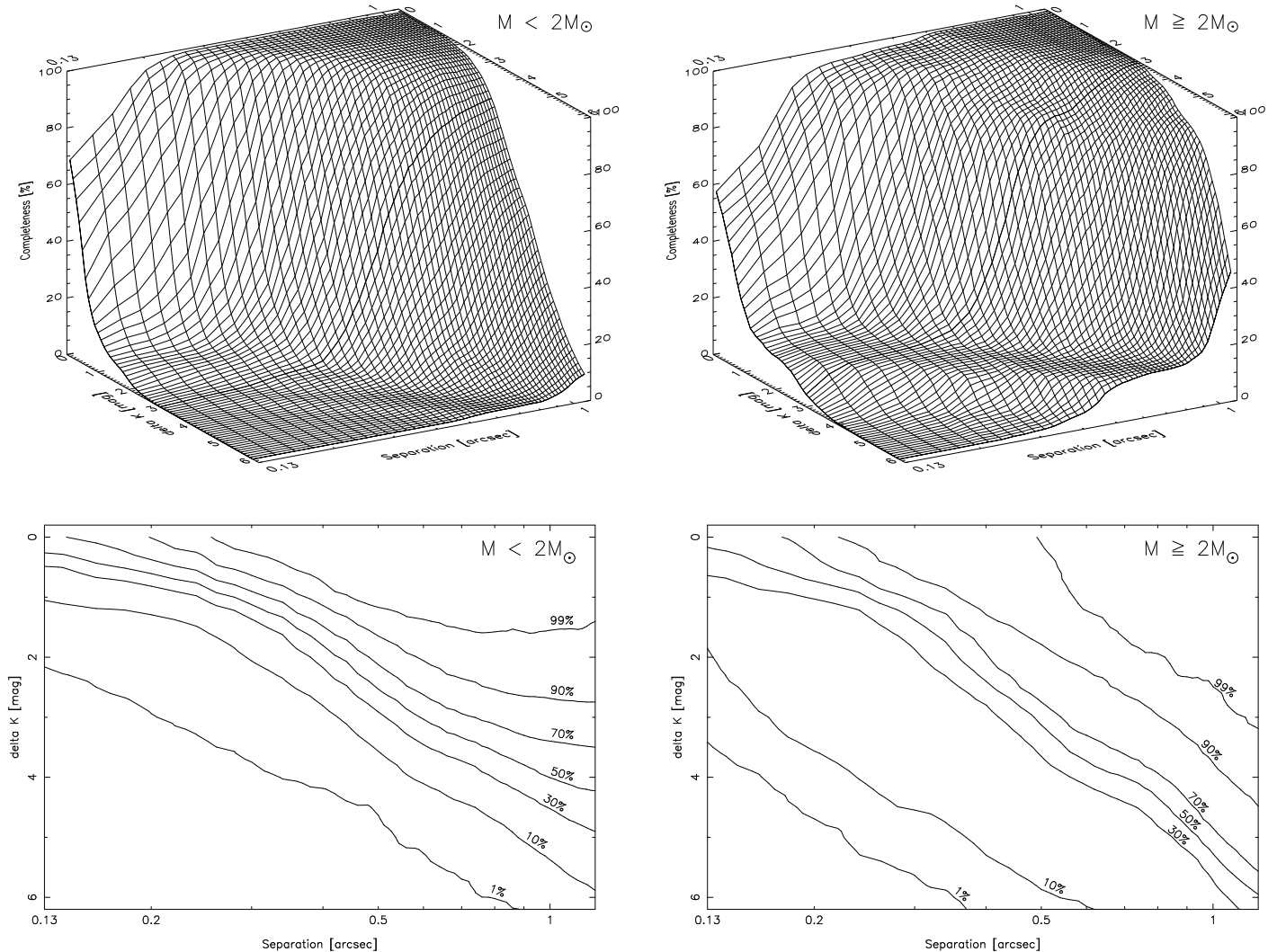
**Fig. 7.** The completeness map of the observation of the star JW0252, presented as surface- (top) and contour-plot (bottom). The thick line on the surface indicates a magnitude difference of  $3^{\text{mag}}$ . The contour lines mark, from top to bottom, 100 %, 75 %, 50 %, 25 %, and 1 % completeness, the crosses show the limiting magnitudes that were found by visual inspection of images with artificial stars. Similar maps were created for all targets in our sample, the completeness of the observation of JW0252 is on an average level for a low-mass star.

ence, for example  $0.7''$  and  $\Delta K = 1.5^{\text{mag}}$ , but at any position angle. We can safely assume that the distribution of companions in position angle is uniform. Then, the detection probability is equivalent to the fraction of position angles where we can detect a companion at  $0.7''$  and  $\Delta K = 1.5^{\text{mag}}$ , i.e. the fraction of position angles where the completeness limit at  $0.7''$  is fainter than  $\Delta K = 1.5^{\text{mag}}$ .

We repeat this counting of position angles for many different separations and magnitude differences, which results in a map of the probability to detect a companion as function of separation and magnitude difference. Figure 7 shows the results for the star JW0252 as an example.

To check whether these standard deviation calculations give good approximation for the detection limits, tests with artificial stars have been carried out. We added artificial stars to our images (using the target star PSF as template), and inspected the resulting images in the same way as the original data. The bright-





**Fig. 8.** The completeness of the observations of low-mass (left) and intermediate- to high-mass stars (right) in the good sample, as function of separation and magnitude difference, presented as a surface-plot (top) and a contour-plot (bottom). On the surfaces, the thick line indicates a magnitude difference of  $3^{\text{mag}}$ . It is interesting to note that the observations of intermediate- to high-mass stars are generally more sensitive to faint companions, but the observations of low-mass stars are slightly more complete near the diffraction limit.

ness of the artificial stars was reduced to find the minimum magnitude difference for a detectable companion. Figure 7 shows the limits obtained in this way, they are comparable to the results of the approach based on standard deviation calculations. We therefore conclude that, although tests with artificial stars might be a better approach for determining the detection limits, the results based on standard deviations agree quite well. Computing standard deviations at about 2 million positions is a matter of minutes, while visually inspecting even a small number of images with artificial stars at different positions is too time-consuming to be repeated for more than 200 stars. Given the variations in the quality of the AO corrections among our targets (mainly due to different magnitudes and separations from the guide star), it is important to assess the completeness of *all* observations and not just a few of them.

The final completeness maps are functions of two variables, separation and magnitude difference. Other binary surveys commonly specify the completeness by giving the limiting magnitude difference as function of separation. This approach is not very useful for our survey since the sensitivity varies considerably from primary to primary, therefore we do not have a sharp

limit in magnitude. The transition zone between 100 % and 0 % completeness is typically  $1^{\text{mag}}$  wide (Fig. 7) for a single observation, and even wider for the combined completeness of several stars (e.g. Fig. 8).

We eliminated the dependence of the completeness on position angle, but we pay a price: We no longer have a sharp completeness limit, but a soft decline from 100 % to 0 % probability to detect a companion.

#### 4.3.2. Completeness of several Observations

To combine the maps for the whole sample or selected subsamples into an estimate for the completeness of the (sub)sample as function of separation and magnitude difference, we simply average the completeness. To obtain the completeness of a subsample within a given range of separation and  $\Delta K$ , we integrate the combined map within the limits and divide the result by the area in separation- $\Delta K$  space. This gives the completeness as a percentage between 0 % and 100 %.

In principle, we can extrapolate to 100 % completeness by dividing the number of companions actually found by the com-

pleteness reached. However, this method will only give accurate results if both the distribution of separations and the distribution of magnitude differences are flat. We have no way to verify these assumptions, in particular if we extrapolate to parts of the parameter space where we are not able to detect companions.

In Sect. 5.2, we compare our results to surveys of the star-forming regions Taurus-Auriga and Scorpius-Centaurus. These star-forming regions are closer to the sun than the ONC, therefore binaries with the same physical separation (in AU) have larger projected separations (in arc-seconds) and are easier to detect. When we compare their results to our survey, the other survey is always more sensitive for close and faint companions. Instead of correcting for incompleteness by adding companions we did not detect to the ONC survey, we remove companions from the other surveys that would not have been detected if they were in the ONC. A prerequisite for this method is, of course, that the authors give a complete list of companions with separations and magnitudes or magnitude differences.

For comparisons of subsamples within the ONC we use a differential method. We construct a “maximum completeness map”, which is at each point in the separation- $\Delta K$  plane the maximum completeness of the samples we wish to compare. Then we extrapolate the number of companions from the completeness of one sample to the maximum completeness of both samples. This difference is usually non-zero for both samples, since the completeness of both samples is smaller than the maximum completeness. However, since the maximum completeness map is only the envelope of the completeness maps of both subsamples, the correction factors remain reasonably small, and the corrected results do not contain large numbers of binaries that were in fact never detected. Fig. 8 shows the completeness maps of low- and intermediate- to high-mass stars as an example.

#### 4.4. Chance Alignments

We observed our binary candidates only on one occasion; there is no way to tell from these data if two stars form indeed a gravitationally bound system or if they are simply two unrelated stars that happen to be close to each other projected onto the plane of the sky.<sup>5</sup> Since the majority of the stars seen in the direction of the ONC are indeed cluster members, both stars in these pairs are usually in the cluster, chance alignments with background stars are relatively rare. For this reason, we decided not to use the brightness of the companions to classify the binary candidates as physical pair or chance alignment.

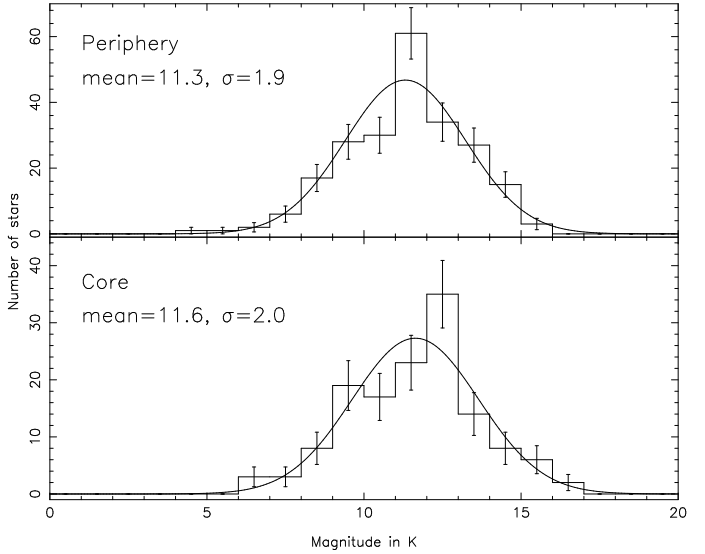
We can estimate how many of our binary candidates are chance alignments, with the help of the surface density of stars in our fields. In the simplest case, the number of chance alignments we have to expect is the total area where we look for companions times the surface density of stars:

$$n_{\text{ch.a.}} = N \cdot \pi r_{\text{out}}^2 \cdot \Sigma,$$

where  $n_{\text{ch.a.}}$  is the number of chance alignments,  $N$  is the number of primaries,  $r_{\text{out}}$  is the maximum radius where we count a star as companion candidate, and  $\Sigma$  is the surface number density of stars on the sky.

However, we have to take into account the sensitivity limits and (in)completeness derived in Sect. 4.3. Since the completeness of our observations is a function of radius and magnitude

<sup>5</sup> Scally et al. (1999) used proper motion data for a statistical analysis of wide binaries in the ONC, but even this additional information did not allow them to identify real binaries on a star-by-star basis.



**Fig. 9.** Number of stars as function of observed magnitude in the K-band. For the periphery, these are all stars within a radius of 30'' from one of the 52 guide stars. The observations of the core cover an area of about 2.2 square arcminutes.

difference, we have to integrate over both variables:

$$n_{\text{ch.a.}} = \sum_{i=1}^N \int_0^{r_{\text{out}}} \pi r \int_{m_i}^{m_i+\Delta m} p_i(r, m) \cdot \Sigma(m) dm dr,$$

with  $\Sigma(m)$  being the surface density of stars with magnitudes in the range  $m$  to  $m+dm$ , and  $p_i(r, m)$  the probability to detect a star of magnitude  $m$  at distance  $r$  from target  $i$ . Note that the integrals have to be computed for each target star individually and the results added up, we cannot obtain the total by multiplying with the number of targets  $N$ .

To estimate the surface density as function of magnitude, we use the targets detected in our own observations. Because of the way the sample was selected (cf. Sect. 2), these are all the sources in the 2MASS point-source catalog. Our high-spatial-resolution observations allow us to add a number of stars that were either too faint for 2MASS, or in a region too crowded. We also removed a few spurious sources. An additional advantage of using our own observations to determine the stellar surface density is that we do not have to apply corrections for incomplete detections of faint sources.

One might argue that using the science targets for this purpose introduces a bias because they are not randomly distributed in our images, they are there because we chose to observe them. However, we did not decide to observe any particular target, we observed *all* stars within 30'' from a guide star (in the computation of the surface density, we take into account that we effectively cover the full field, not just the area of our AO-corrected images).

Figure 9 shows the number of stars in our sample as a function of observed magnitude<sup>6</sup>. Because of the large difference in stellar surface density between core and periphery of the cluster, we treat the two regions separately. We approximate these

<sup>6</sup> Note that this is not the luminosity function of the cluster. The conversion from observed to absolute magnitudes is not trivial, since it requires knowing the amount of extinction, which is not constant across the ONC. We do not try to derive the luminosity function and we are not interested in it here, since the number of detected stars depends on the observed, not the absolute magnitude.

**Table 3.** Comparison of low- and intermediate- to high-mass binaries, corrections, and binary frequency.

| Subsample    | Primary Mass           | Systems | separations $\leq 0.7''$ |            |               |                | separations $\leq 1.12''$ |            |               |                |
|--------------|------------------------|---------|--------------------------|------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------------|------------|---------------|----------------|
|              |                        |         | Binaries                 | Chance al. | Corr.         | B.F. [%]       | Binaries                  | Chance al. | Corr.         | B.F. [%]       |
| Good Sample  | $0.1 \dots 2M_{\odot}$ | 105     | 3                        | 0.3        | $\times 1.32$ | $3.4 \pm 2.1$  | 5                         | 0.9        | $\times 1.31$ | $5.1 \pm 2.7$  |
|              | $\geq 2M_{\odot}$      | 29      | 4                        | 0.1        | $\times 1.01$ | $13.5 \pm 6.5$ | 4                         | 0.4        | $\times 1.00$ | $12.3 \pm 6.4$ |
| Large Sample | $0.1 \dots 2M_{\odot}$ | 228     | 9                        | 1.2        | $\times 1.19$ | $4.1 \pm 1.6$  | 12                        | 3.4        | $\times 1.24$ | $4.7 \pm 1.9$  |
|              | $\geq 2M_{\odot}$      | 48      | 8                        | 0.3        | $\times 1.01$ | $16.2 \pm 5.4$ | 9                         | 1.0        | $\times 1.00$ | $16.7 \pm 5.7$ |

distributions by Gauß functions with the parameters given in the figure, the surface density is the number of stars per magnitude interval divided by the area covered by the observations.

We then multiply the completeness maps derived for each star in the last section by the number of stars per square arc-second and magnitude bin (in steps of  $0.1^{\text{mag}}$ ). The sum of the results is the expected number of chance alignments with one target star, and the sum of these expected numbers for a list of stars gives the number of chance alignments we have to expect in total with this list of stars.

#### 4.4.1. Periphery

Within circles of radius  $1''.12$  around all 28 targets with masses higher than  $2 M_{\odot}$ , we expect only  $0.08 \pm 0.01$  chance alignments. Within the same separation from our 147 low-mass targets, we expect  $0.26 \pm 0.02$  chance alignments. We expect  $0.006 \pm 0.001$  chance alignments with one of our 14 sub-stellar candidates, which is in line with the fact that we find no companion to these objects.

Inserting these numbers into the formula of the Binomial distribution gives a probability of 92% that we observe no chance alignment with a intermediate- or high-mass star, and a probability of 77% for no chance alignment with a low-mass star. We can therefore assume that all of our 4 intermediate- to high-mass and all of the 7 low-mass binaries are indeed gravitationally-bound binaries. This corresponds to a binary frequency of  $(14 \pm 7)\%$  for the intermediate- to high-mass and  $(4.8 \pm 1.8)\%$  for the low-mass systems. Since there are no higher-order multiples, this is identical to the multiplicity frequency (number of multiples divided by total number of systems) and the companion star frequency (number of companions divided by the total number of systems, CSF hereafter).

#### 4.4.2. Cluster Core

In the cluster core, we carry out a similar analysis, but we have to take into account the variations of the stellar surface density. The surface density varies significantly from one target star to the next, we therefore cannot use the same  $\Sigma$  for all targets. In principle, we have to derive  $\Sigma(m)$  for each target individually. However, the stellar surface density is not high enough to measure it as function of the stellar magnitude for each target field. A region that contains enough stars to yield reasonable statistics would be too large to measure local density variations. Therefore, we assume the shape of the function to be constant throughout the core region and determine it from all stars within the region (this is shown in the lower panel of Fig. 9). The result is scaled for each target to match the total number of stars found around it, which we obtained by counting the stars within  $15''$  around each target.

Within radii of  $1''.12$  from the 22 intermediate- and high-mass stars in the core, we expect  $1.0 \pm 0.3$  chance alignments. For

the 81 low-mass systems, the expected number is  $3.1 \pm 1.0$ , and for the 19 sub-stellar candidates, it is  $0.19 \pm 0.05$ . The resulting corrected binary frequencies are  $(23 \pm 10)\%$  for the intermediate- and high-mass stars, and  $(3.6 \pm 3.2)\%$  for the low-mass stars.

## 5. Discussion

### 5.1. Dependence of Binary Frequency on Primary Mass

First, we discuss the binary frequency of all stars as function of primary mass, independent of their position in the cluster. We study two different subsamples based on the quality of the mass determinations:

- The “good sample” consists of stars with masses given by H97 and a membership probability in the cluster of at least 50%. This subsample contains 134 stars.
- The “large sample” contains all stars with known masses, either from H97 or from IR-photometry. These masses are less reliable, and we also include stars that are probably not cluster members, but the statistical uncertainties are reduced by the larger sample size of 275 systems.

Figure 8 shows the completeness-maps of low- and intermediate- to high-mass stars in the good sample. Table 3 lists, for both samples and divided into low- and intermediate- to high-mass stars, the number of binaries we find, the number of chance alignments expected, the correction factor to bring low- and intermediate- to high-mass stars to the same level of completeness, and the resulting binary frequency.

The corrections for chance alignments are rather large if we count binary candidates up to  $1''.12$  separation – one of the 5 low-mass binaries in the good sample, and 3 to 4 of the 12 low-mass binaries in the large sample are probably chance alignments. We therefore decided to also study the statistics of closer binaries, which are less affected by chance projections. The upper separation limit was chosen to be  $0''.7$ , which reduces the number of chance alignments with low-mass stars in the large sample to about one.

We find the binary frequency of intermediate- to high-mass stars to be always higher than that of low-mass stars, by a factor between 2.4 and 4.0. The difference is statistically significant on the 1 to  $2\sigma$  level, where the “good sample” and the larger separation limit have the lowest significance. The good sample contains the smaller number of systems, i.e. it has larger statistical uncertainties.

The result that intermediate- and high-mass stars show a higher multiplicity than low-mass stars was already found by previous studies (e.g. Petr et al. 1998, Preibisch et al. 1999). However, to our knowledge this is the first study that shows a significant difference without applying large corrections for undetected companions. For example, Preibisch et al. (1999) find 8 visual companions to 13 O- and B-stars. Their result that the mean number of companions per primary star is at least 1.5 is

based on a correction factor of  $\geq 2.5$  for undetected companions. Our corrections for incompleteness raise the number of low-mass companions (cf. Tab. 3), i.e. they reduce the difference in the CSF between the two subsamples.

As a final remark in this section, we note that we find no binaries among the sub-stellar candidates ( $M < 0.1 M_{\odot}$ ) in our sample. However, the completeness of these observations is limited in two ways: We certainly did not find all sub-stellar objects in our fields, and our sensitivity for companions is lower than for companions to brighter objects.

## 5.2. Comparison with other Regions

### 5.2.1. Main-sequence Stars

In this section, we compare our findings to those of surveys of other regions. The binary survey most commonly used for comparison is the work of Duquennoy & Mayor (1991, hereafter DM91), who studied a sample of 164 solar-type main-sequence stars in the solar neighborhood. They used spectroscopic observations, complemented by direct imaging; therefore they give the distribution of *periods* of the binaries. Before we can compare this to our results, we have to convert it into a distribution of projected separations. We follow the method described in Köhler (2001). In short, we simulate 10 million artificial binaries with orbital elements distributed according to DM91. Then we compute the fraction of those binaries that could have been detected by our observations, i.e. those having projected separations between  $0''.13$  and  $1''.12$  at the distance of the ONC (450 pc). The result is that 21 binaries out of DM91's sample of 164 systems fall into this separation range, which corresponds to a companion star frequency of  $(12.8 \pm 2.6)\%$  (where the error is computed according to binomial statistics).

DM91 report that their results are complete down to a mass ratio of 1:10. The models of Baraffe et al. (1998) show that for low-mass stars on the 1 Myr isochrone, this corresponds to a magnitude difference of  $3^{\text{mag}}$  in the K-band. Due to the different method used (adaptive optics imaging vs. spectroscopy), our survey is less complete than that of DM91. With our data, we can find only about 70% of the binaries in the separation range  $0''.13 \dots 1''.12$  and with magnitude differences up to  $3^{\text{mag}}$  (Fig. 8). This means we would have found a CSF of  $(9.0 \pm 1.8)\%$  for the DM91-sample. In the ONC, the CSF of low-mass stars in the good and the large sample are  $(3.9 \pm 2.1)\%$  and  $(3.8 \pm 1.5)\%$ , respectively (after subtracting chance alignments, but without corrections for incompleteness, see Tab. 3). This means the CSF in the ONC is a factor of  $2.3 \pm 1.0$  to  $2.4 \pm 0.9$  lower than in the DM91 sample.

There are a number of M-dwarf surveys in the literature (Fischer & Marcy 1992, Leinert et al. 1997, Reid & Gizis 1997), none of them comprises a sample comparable in size to DM91. Reid & Gizis (1997, RG97) studied the largest sample so far, which contains 81 late K- or M-dwarfs. Their list of binaries contains 4 companions in the separation range 60 – 500 AU. They publish the separations and magnitudes of the binaries, which enables us to determine with the help of our completeness maps how many companions would have been detected if they were in Orion. The result is about 2 companions, corresponding to a CSF of  $(2.6 \pm 1.8)\%$ , which is comparable to our result for stars in the ONC. The lower CSF of M-dwarfs compared to solar-type stars reflects the deficit of M-dwarf binaries with larger separations (Marchal et al. 2003).

It would be useful to compare our results for intermediate- to high-mass stars in the ONC to the multiplicity of main-sequence

stars with similar masses. However, we are not aware of a survey of main-sequence B or A stars of similar quality and completeness as DM91 for G stars. A spectroscopic survey of B stars (Abt, Gomez, & Levy 1990) finds a binary frequency that is significantly higher than among solar-type stars. Mason et al. (1998) find a binary frequency of 59 – 75% for O-stars in clusters, and 35 – 58% for O-stars in the field. They count binaries of *all* periods and separations, using speckle observations combined with spectroscopic and visual binaries from the literature. This means we cannot directly compare their numbers to our results for a limited separation range. Mason et al. apply no corrections for incompleteness, therefore their numbers are rather lower limits. Nevertheless, we can say that their results are in qualitative agreement with our finding of a high binary frequency among stars with masses  $\geq 2 M_{\odot}$  in clusters.

### 5.2.2. Taurus-Auriga

The star-forming region Taurus-Auriga is the best-studied T Association. It is also the region where the overabundance of young binary stars was discovered for the first time (Ghez et al. 1993, Leinert et al. 1993). Here, we use the binary surveys by Leinert et al. (1993) and Köhler & Leinert (1998), which together contain the largest published sample of young stars in Taurus-Auriga.

The separation range 60 – 500 AU of our ONC-survey corresponds to  $0''.42 - 3''.6$  at the distance of Taurus-Auriga (140 pc). Within this range, the surveys by Leinert et al. and Köhler & Leinert are complete to a magnitude difference of about  $6^{\text{mag}}$  (cf. Fig. 2 in Köhler & Leinert 1998). With our data, we can find about 44% of the binaries with magnitude differences up to  $6^{\text{mag}}$ . Instead of multiplying the number of companions in Taurus-Auriga by this percentage, we go back to the raw data of the surveys in Taurus-Auriga and count the number of companions we could have detected if they were in Orion, based on the completeness estimated for our observations. The result, after correction for chance alignments and the bias induced by the X-ray selection (Köhler & Leinert 1998), is 24 or 25 companions for the completeness of our good and large sample, respectively. With a sample size of 174, this corresponds to a CSF of  $(14 \pm 3)\%$ . In Orion, however, we find only a CSF of  $(3.9 \pm 2.1)\%$  and  $(3.8 \pm 1.5)\%$ . Thus, the CSF of low-mass stars in Taurus-Auriga is higher by a factor of  $3.5 \pm 1.6$  to  $3.8 \pm 1.4$  compared to the ONC.

It is a well-known fact that the multiplicity in Taurus-Auriga is about twice as high as among solar-type main-sequence stars. With a CSF in the ONC lower than among solar-type main-sequence stars by a factor of about 2.4, we would expect the CSF in Taurus-Auriga to be about 5 times higher than in the ONC. The reason why we find a smaller factor is the flux ratio distribution of the binaries in Taurus-Auriga (top panel of Fig. 8 in Köhler & Leinert 1998). Many of the companions would be too faint to be detected in our survey in the ONC, therefore the overabundance of binaries in Taurus-Auriga is less pronounced if we limit ourselves to the sensitivity of the ONC-survey.

### 5.2.3. Scorpius-Centaurus

The Scorpius OB2 association is the closest and best-studied OB association, in particular with respect to binaries.

Shatsky & Tokovinin (2002) studied the multiplicity of 115 B-type stars in the Scorpius OB2 association, using coronagraphic and non-coronagraphic imaging with the ADONIS sys-

**Table 4.** The CSF in several regions, reduced to the completeness of our observations in the ONC (see text).

| Low-mass stars                   |                            |                |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Region                           | Reference                  | CSF [%]        |
| ONC (good sample)                | this work                  | $3.9 \pm 2.1$  |
| ONC (large sample)               | this work                  | $3.8 \pm 1.5$  |
| Taurus-Auriga                    | Köhler & Leinert (1998)    | $14 \pm 3$     |
| Scorpius-Centaurus               | Köhler et al. (2000)       | $18 \pm 4$     |
| Main-sequence stars              |                            |                |
| solar-type                       | Duquennoy & Mayor (1991)   | $9.0 \pm 1.8$  |
| M-dwarfs                         | Reid & Gizis (1997)        | $2.6 \pm 1.8$  |
| Intermediate- to High-mass stars |                            |                |
| Region                           | Reference                  | CSF [%]        |
| ONC (good sample)                | this work                  | $12 \pm 6$     |
| ONC (large sample)               | this work                  | $17 \pm 6$     |
| Scorpius OB2                     |                            |                |
| B-type stars                     | Shatsky & Tokovinin (2002) | $3.5 \pm 1.7$  |
| A-type stars                     | Kouwenhoven et al. (2005)  | $11.5 \pm 2.4$ |

tem. The separation range of our survey corresponds to  $0'.42 - 3'.6$  at the mean distance of Scorpius OB2 (140 pc). Their list of physical companions contains 12 objects in this separation range. However, we would have detected only about 4 of them if they were in the ONC, so the detectable CSF is  $(3.4 \pm 1.8)\%$ . We find  $(12 \pm 6)\%$  to  $(17 \pm 6)\%$  binaries, which is higher with a statistical significance of 1.3 to  $2.3\sigma$ .

Kouwenhoven et al. (2005) surveyed A star members of Scorpius OB2 with ADONIS. They adopt a distance of 130 pc, therefore the separation range of our survey corresponds to  $0'.45 - 3'.88$ . Within these separations, they find 41 companions in 199 systems, of which 23 would have been detected by our observations. This corresponds to a companion star frequency of  $(11.5 \pm 2.3)\%$ . Our result of  $(12 \pm 6)\%$  to  $(17 \pm 6)\%$  is in agreement within the error bars.

Köhler et al. (2000) carried out a multiplicity survey of T Tauri stars in the Scorpius-Centaurus OB association. Their targets are located in the Upper Scorpius part of the association, which is at 145 pc distance, therefore separations of 60 – 500 AU correspond to  $0'.40 - 3'.48$ . They find 27 companions within this range in 104 systems, of which about 20 would have been detected by us. After correction for chance alignments, this yields a CSF of  $(18 \pm 4)\%$ . Comparing with our result in the ONC of  $(3.9 \pm 2.1)\%$  to  $(3.8 \pm 1.5)\%$  leads to the conclusion that the CSF of low-mass stars in Scorpius-Centaurus is higher than in the ONC by a factor of about  $5 \pm 2$ .

There are a few studies of the multiplicity of very low-mass objects in Upper Scorpius (Bouy et al. 2006, Kraus et al. 2005), but the limited completeness and sensitivity of our observations of sub-stellar candidates does not allow a statistically meaningful comparison.

#### 5.2.4. Summary of the Comparison with other Regions

Table 4 gives an overview and summary of the results of this section.

The data on low-mass stars show the result of the early surveys (Leinert et al. 1993, Ghez et al. 1993), namely the overabundance of binaries in Taurus-Auriga and Scorpius-Centaurus compared to main-sequence stars. Our results for binaries in the ONC confirm that their frequency in the ONC is lower than among solar-type main-sequence stars (e.g. Prosser et al. 1994, Padgett et al. 1997, Petr et al. 1998, Petr 1998, Simon et al.

1999). We find this difference to be even more pronounced than in earlier studies. However, we do not find a significant difference if we compare the binary frequency of low-mass stars in the ONC and M-dwarfs in the solar neighborhood (Reid & Gizis 1997). This is not surprising, since the median mass of our low-mass sample is  $0.3 M_{\odot}$ , most of the stars are M-dwarfs (cf. Fig. 4). This suggests that the difference in multiplicity between Taurus and the ONC is not just a regional, but also a selection effect: The surveys in Taurus-Auriga (Leinert et al. 1993, Ghez et al. 1993) and Scorpius-Centaurus (Köhler et al. 2000) used Speckle interferometry, which is limited to stars brighter than  $K \sim 10^m$ . However, selection effects cannot explain the difference between Taurus-Auriga and solar-type main-sequence stars.

The data about intermediate- to high-mass stars present a somewhat inconsistent picture: The results for the ONC is in good agreement with those for A-type stars in the Scorpius OB2 association, which is in line with the presumption that most of the intermediate- to high-mass stars in our sample are of spectral type A or later. The binary frequency of B-type stars appears to be lower, but this might be a selection effect. These numbers were obtained by taking into account the probability that the companions could have been detected in our survey of the ONC. This is rather low for companions much fainter than the primary star, which means it is harder to detect a companion to a B-star than detecting an equally bright companion next to an A-star. Shatsky & Tokovinin (2002) used a coronagraph, which allowed them to find fainter (and therefore more) companions than we could. Their total numbers (uncorrected for the sensitivity of our survey) agree quite well with those for A-type stars (Kouwenhoven et al. 2005).

#### 5.3. Dependence of Binary Frequency on Distance from Cluster Center

In this section, we study how the binary frequency depends on the position of the star within the cluster. This involves a number of corrections to the raw numbers; the results are listed in Tab. 5, Fig. 10, and Fig. 11. As an example, we summarize how the numbers for low-mass stars of the “good sample” in the cluster core were derived.

All binaries and systems that match the criteria of the subsample (i.e. mass between  $0.1$  and  $2 M_{\odot}$ , mass from H97, membership probability  $> 50\%$ , located less than  $4'$  from  $\theta^1 C$ ) are counted. Additionally, the probability for a chance alignment is summed up, and the completeness of the whole subsample is computed. This completeness as a function of separation and magnitude difference is compared to the completeness of the low-mass stars of the good sample in the cluster periphery, in order to derive the completeness correction factors. Finally, we subtract the number of chance alignments from the raw number of companions, and multiply the result by the completeness correction to obtain the binary frequency in table 5. Note that this is not the binary frequency for 100% completeness, but only for the same completeness as the binary frequency of the corresponding subsample of stars in the periphery.

As in Sect. 5.1, the corrections for chance alignments are rather large, in particular in the cluster core. Again, we study the binary statistics for two upper separation limits,  $0'.7$  and  $1'.12$ .

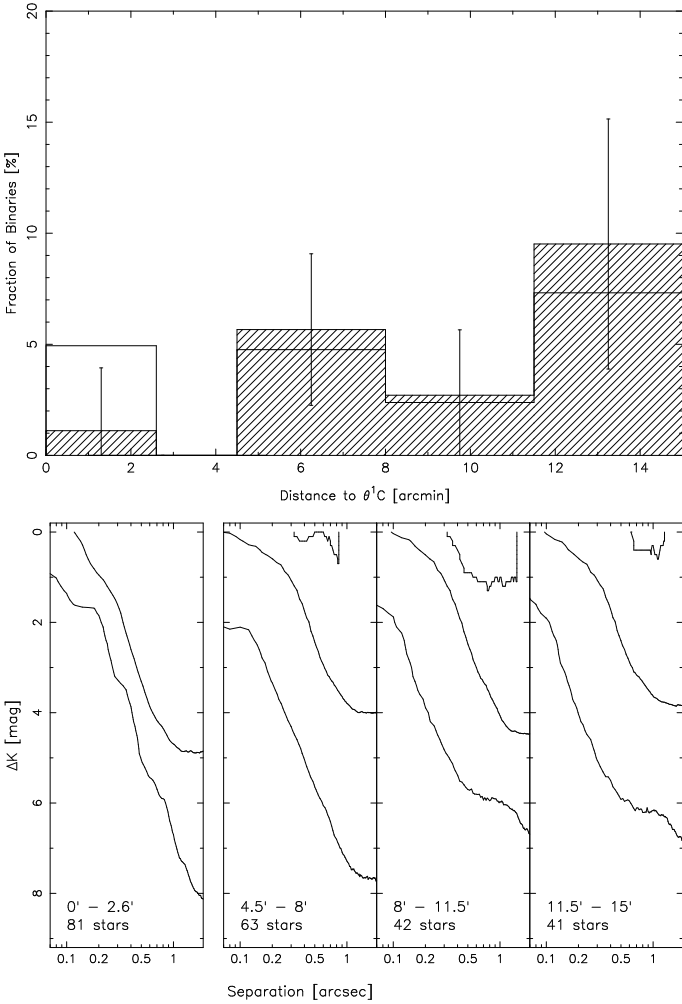
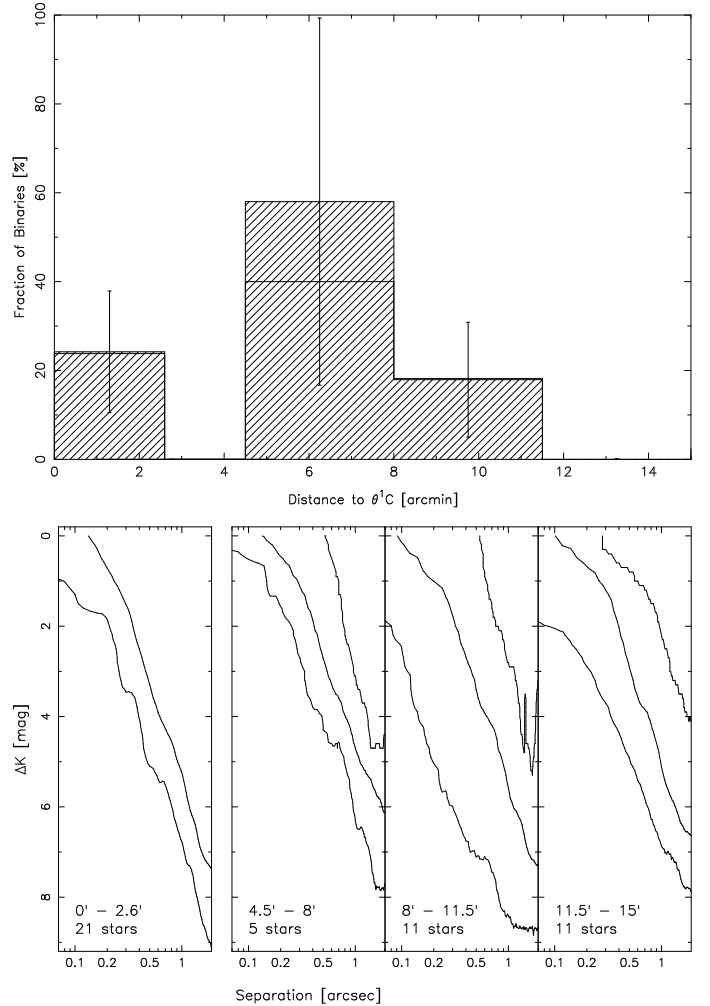
The binary frequency of low-mass stars in the periphery is in most cases somewhat higher than that of stars in the core (Tab. 5 and Fig. 10). The one exception are binaries with separations  $< 0'.7$  in the good sample, which are more frequent in the core. However, the number of binaries in this subsample is too small

**Table 5.** The numbers of binaries and systems, the corrections for chance alignments and incompleteness, and corrected binary frequency in the core and the periphery of the ONC.

| binaries with separations $\leq 1.12''$ |           |                                    |         |         |               |               |                     |         |         |               |                 |
|---|-----------|------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|---------|---------|---------------|-----------------|
| Sample                                  | Region    | $0.1M_{\odot} \leq M < 2M_{\odot}$ |         |         |               |               | $M \geq 2M_{\odot}$ |         |         |               |                 |
|   |           | Bin.                               | Ch. al. | Systems | Corr.         | B.F. [%]      | Bin.                | Ch. al. | Systems | Corr.         | B.F. [%]        |
| Good Sample                             | Core      | 1                                  | 0.73    | 17      | $\times 1.02$ | $1.6 \pm 6.0$ | 1                   | 0.39    | 10      | $\times 1.14$ | $6.9 \pm 10.9$  |
|   | Periphery | 4                                  | 0.16    | 88      | $\times 1.33$ | $5.8 \pm 3.0$ | 3                   | 0.05    | 19      | $\times 1.02$ | $15.8 \pm 8.5$  |
| Large Sample                            | Core      | 5                                  | 3.14    | 82      | $\times 1.02$ | $2.3 \pm 3.0$ | 5                   | 0.93    | 21      | $\times 1.09$ | $21.1 \pm 10.2$ |
|   | Periphery | 7                                  | 0.26    | 146     | $\times 1.24$ | $5.7 \pm 2.2$ | 4                   | 0.08    | 27      | $\times 1.04$ | $15.1 \pm 7.1$  |

| binaries with separations $\leq 0.7''$ |           |                                    |         |         |               |               |                     |         |         |               |                 |
|--|-----------|------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|---------|---------|---------------|-----------------|
| Sample                                 | Region    | $0.1M_{\odot} \leq M < 2M_{\odot}$ |         |         |               |               | $M \geq 2M_{\odot}$ |         |         |               |                 |
|  |           | Bin.                               | Ch. al. | Systems | Corr.         | B.F. [%]      | Bin.                | Ch. al. | Systems | Corr.         | B.F. [%]        |
| Good Sample                            | Core      | 1                                  | 0.22    | 17      | $\times 1.03$ | $4.7 \pm 5.9$ | 1                   | 0.10    | 10      | $\times 1.22$ | $11.1 \pm 11.6$ |
|  | Periphery | 2                                  | 0.05    | 88      | $\times 1.31$ | $2.9 \pm 2.1$ | 3                   | 0.02    | 19      | $\times 1.03$ | $16.2 \pm 8.6$  |
| Large Sample                           | Core      | 4                                  | 1.07    | 82      | $\times 1.02$ | $3.7 \pm 2.5$ | 4                   | 0.26    | 21      | $\times 1.14$ | $20.3 \pm 9.8$  |
|  | Periphery | 5                                  | 0.09    | 146     | $\times 1.30$ | $4.4 \pm 2.0$ | 4                   | 0.02    | 27      | $\times 1.06$ | $15.6 \pm 7.2$  |

**Fig. 10.** Top: Companion star frequency vs. projected distance from cluster center for all stars with  $M < 2M_{\odot}$ . The outlined histogram shows the uncorrected numbers, the hatched histogram and the error bars show the results after correction for chance alignments and relative incompleteness (see text). Bottom: Completeness of the observations of these stars. The contour lines mark 1 %, 50 %, and 100 % completeness. Note that the sample in the cluster core never reaches 100 % completeness at any separation, mainly because of targets close to the edge of the frame.**Fig. 11.** As Fig. 10, but for all stars with  $M \geq 2M_{\odot}$ .

to give any statistically meaningful result. The statistical significance of the other subsamples is also quite small, at most  $0.9\sigma$ , where the largest subsample shows the highest significance. It is worth noting that this trend is not present in the raw data, it appears only if the corrections for chance alignments and incompleteness are applied. We conclude that we find only a small and

statistically not very significant difference between cluster core and periphery.

The results for stars with masses  $> 2 M_{\odot}$  are inconsistent (Tab. 5 and Fig. 11). Stars in the good sample have higher multiplicity in the periphery, while the large sample shows the opposite trend. However, all the differences are statistically insignificant, which leads to the conclusion that we find no dependency of the binary frequency of intermediate- and high-mass stars on the location in the cluster. Given the small numbers of binaries and systems in the subsamples, even this conclusion should be taken with a grain of salt.

#### 5.4. ONC Periphery compared to Taurus-Auriga

The result of a direct comparison between low-mass stars in the periphery of the ONC and in Taurus-Auriga is much clearer: The CSF of the stars in the periphery of the ONC after subtraction of chance alignments is  $(4.4 \pm 2.2)\%$  (good sample) to  $(4.6 \pm 1.8)\%$  (large sample). In the separation range 60 – 500 AU, Leinert et al. (1993) and Köhler & Leinert (1998) find 39 companions in Taurus-Auriga, of which we would detect about 23 with the completeness of our observations. This corresponds to a CSF of  $(13.4 \pm 2.6)\%$ , and is higher than the CSF in the ONC by a factor of  $(3.1 \pm 1.3)$  and  $(2.9 \pm 1.0)$ .

#### 5.5. Implications for Binary Formation Theory

Our results do not support the simple model by Kroupa et al. (1999), which assumes that all stars in the ONC were born in binary or multiple systems that were later destroyed by dynamical interactions. In this case, the binary frequency in the outer parts of the cluster, where the dynamical timescales are too long for any significant impact on the number of binaries since the formation of the cluster, would be expected to be almost as high as in Taurus-Auriga. Our observations show that the binary frequency of stars in the periphery is not significantly higher than in the cluster core, and clearly lower than in Taurus. Dynamical interactions may explain the small difference we find between the binary frequencies in the core and the periphery. However, they are probably not the main cause for the difference between the ONC and Taurus.

One way the rather homogeneous binary frequency throughout the Orion Nebula Cluster can be explained by dynamical interactions is the hypothesis that the cluster was much denser in the past. This would reduce the dynamical timescales and thus would not only disrupt more binaries, but also lead to enough mixing to smear out differences in binary frequency in different parts of the cluster. However, while there are indications that the ONC is expanding, it is hard to imagine that it was so dense that the effect just described can explain the observations.

Another possible explanation would be the hierarchical formation model presented by Bonnell et al. (2003). They used a numerical simulation to follow the fragmentation of a turbulent molecular cloud, and the subsequent formation and evolution of a stellar cluster. They show that the fragmentation of the molecular cloud leads to the formation of many small subclusters, which later merge to form the final cluster. The number-density of stars in these clusters is higher than in a monolithic formation scenario, which results in closer and more frequent dynamical interactions. The relatively low binary frequency in the periphery of the ONC could be explained if the binaries were already destroyed by dynamical interactions in their parental subcluster.

However, the simplest explanation with our current knowledge of the history of the ONC is still that *not* all stars there were born in binary systems. This means that the initial binary frequency in the ONC was lower than, e.g., in Taurus-Auriga. The reason for this is probably related to the environmental conditions in the star-forming regions' parental molecular clouds, like temperature or the strength of the turbulence. The observed anti-correlation between stellar density and multiplicity does not imply that a high stellar density causes a low binary frequency, but rather suggests that the same conditions that lead to the formation of a dense cluster also result in the formation of fewer binary and multiple stars.

## 6. Summary and Conclusions

We carried out a survey for binaries in the periphery of the Orion Nebula Cluster, at 5 – 15 arcmin from the cluster center. We combine our data with the data of Petr (1998) for stars in the cluster core and find:

- The binary frequency of stars with  $M > 2 M_{\odot}$  is higher than that of stars with  $0.1 < M < 2 M_{\odot}$  by a factor of 2.4 to 4.
- The CSF of low-mass stars in the separation range 60 – 500 AU is comparable to M-dwarfs on the main sequence, but significantly lower than in other samples of low-mass stars: by a factor of 2 to 3 compared to solar-type main-sequence stars, by a factor of 3 to 4 compared to stars in the star-forming region Taurus-Auriga, and by a factor of about 5 compared to low-mass stars in Scorpius-Centaurus. The well-known overabundance of binaries in Taurus-Auriga is in this separation range largely caused by stars fainter than our detection limit, which have been excluded in the calculation of these factors. Therefore, the overabundance of binaries in Taurus-Auriga relative to main-sequence stars is not as pronounced in the factors relative to our results.
- The CSF of intermediate- to high-mass stars in the ONC is significantly higher than that of B-type stars in Scorpius OB2, and comparable to that of A-type stars in the same region.

By comparing our results for stars in the periphery of the cluster to those of Petr (1998) for stars in the core we reach the following conclusions:

- The binary frequency of low-mass stars in the periphery of the cluster is slightly higher than in the core, albeit with a low statistical significance of less than  $1 \sigma$ .
- The binary frequency of low-mass stars in the periphery of the ONC is lower than that of young stars in Taurus-Auriga, with a statistical significance on the  $2 \sigma$  level.
- The binary frequency of stars with masses  $> 2 M_{\odot}$  in the periphery is lower than in the center, but the difference is not statistically significant due to the small number of objects.

These results do not support the hypothesis that the initial binary proportion in the ONC was as high as in Taurus-Auriga and was only later reduced to the value observed today. In that case, we would expect a much higher number of binaries in the periphery than observed. There are models that can explain the observations with a high initial binary frequency that was reduced by dynamical interactions, e.g. a cluster that was much denser in the past, or a hierarchical formation with many dense subclusters. However, the simplest explanation with our current knowledge is that the initial binary frequency in the ONC was

lower than in Taurus-Auriga. This suggests that the binary formation rate is influenced by environmental conditions, e.g. the temperature of the parental molecular cloud.

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## Appendix A: The Complete Target list

Table A.6. Complete target list.

| No. | Name                  | $\alpha_{2000}$ | $\delta_{2000}$ | H97 Mass | IR Mass | Guide star |
|-----|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|---------|------------|
| 1   | H97 5                 | 5:34:29.2       | -5:23:57        | 1.73     | 1.4     | JW0005     |
| 2   | 2MASS J0534292-052350 | 5:34:29.2       | -5:23:51        |          | 0.5     | JW0005     |
| 3   | H97 3082              | 5:34:28.9       | -5:23:48        |          | 0.1     | JW0005     |
| 4   | H97 9                 | 5:34:29.5       | -5:23:44        | 1.61     | 1.0     | JW0005     |
| 5   | H97 8                 | 5:34:29.4       | -5:23:38        | 0.10     | 0.1     | JW0005     |
| 6   | H97 3086              | 5:34:27.3       | -5:24:23        | 2.67     | 2.7     | JW0005     |
| 7   | H97 14                | 5:34:30.2       | -5:27:27        | 2.08     | 1.7     | JW0014     |
| 8   | H97 3115              | 5:34:31.9       | -5:27:41        | 0.23     | 0.3     | JW0014     |
| 9   | H97 27                | 5:34:33.9       | -5:28:25        | 1.41     | 1.5     | JW0027     |
| 10  |                       | 5:34:34.0       | -5:28:26        |          |         | JW0027     |
| 11  | 2MASS J0534336-052829 | 5:34:33.6       | -5:28:30        |          | 0.1     | JW0027     |
| 12  | H97 18                | 5:34:31.6       | -5:28:28        | 0.29     | 0.3     | JW0027     |
| 13  | H97 45                | 5:34:39.7       | -5:24:26        | 0.94     | 3.5     | JW0045     |
| 14  | H97 40                | 5:34:38.2       | -5:24:24        | 0.21     | 0.2     | JW0045     |
| 15  | 2MASS J0534382-052402 | 5:34:38.2       | -5:24:03        |          | 0.1     | JW0045     |
| 16  | H97 54                | 5:34:41.5       | -5:23:57        | 0.14     | 0.1     | JW0045     |
| 17  | H97 46                | 5:34:39.8       | -5:26:42        | 1.77     | 1.4     | JW0046     |
| 18  | H97 51                | 5:34:40.7       | -5:26:39        | 0.36     | 0.3     | JW0046     |
| 19  | H97 55                | 5:34:41.6       | -5:26:52        | 0.23     | 0.2     | JW0046     |
| 20  | H97 3113              | 5:34:39.5       | -5:27:17        |          | 0.6     | JW0046     |
| 21  | H97 38                | 5:34:37.6       | -5:26:23        | 0.14     | 0.1     | JW0046     |
| 22  | H97 50                | 5:34:40.8       | -5:22:43        | 0.34     | 3.0     | JW0050     |
| 23  | H97 60                | 5:34:42.4       | -5:12:19        | 2.22     | 2.7     | JW0060     |
| 24  | H97 59                | 5:34:42.3       | -5:12:38        | 0.16     | 0.1     | JW0060     |
| 25  | H97 64                | 5:34:43.5       | -5:18:28        | 1.86     | 1.5     | JW0064     |
| 26  |                       | 5:34:43.4       | -5:18:28        |          |         | JW0064     |
| 27  |                       | 5:34:45.4       | -5:18:54        |          |         | JW0064     |
| 28  | H97 75                | 5:34:45.1       | -5:25:04        | 1.50     | 2.0     | JW0075     |
| 29  | H97 77                | 5:34:45.8       | -5:24:56        | 0.38     | 0.3     | JW0075     |
| 30  | H97 81                | 5:34:46.3       | -5:24:32        | 0.32     | 0.6     | JW0075     |
| 31  |                       | 5:34:46.2       | -5:24:35        |          |         | JW0075     |
| 32  | H97 71                | 5:34:44.4       | -5:24:39        | 0.16     | 0.1     | JW0075     |
| 33  | H97 62                | 5:34:42.8       | -5:25:17        | 1.38     | 0.6     | JW0075     |
| 34  | H97 67                | 5:34:43.7       | -5:25:27        |          | 0.1     | JW0075     |
| 35  | H97 108               | 5:34:49.9       | -5:18:45        | 3.59     | 3.5     | JW0108     |
| 36  | H97 106               | 5:34:49.2       | -5:18:56        | 0.21     | 0.3     | JW0108     |
| 37  | H97 98                | 5:34:48.7       | -5:19:08        | 0.18     | 0.2     | JW0108     |
| 38  | H97 116               | 5:34:50.6       | -5:24:01        | 0.69     | 0.8     | JW0116     |
| 39  |                       | 5:34:50.7       | -5:24:03        |          |         | JW0116     |
| 40  | H97 114               | 5:34:50.4       | -5:23:36        | 0.41     |         | JW0116     |
| 41  | H97 133               | 5:34:52.5       | -5:24:03        | 0.29     | 0.5     | JW0116     |
| 42  | H97 125               | 5:34:51.9       | -5:24:18        | 0.20     | 0.2     | JW0116     |
| 43  | H97 129               | 5:34:52.1       | -5:33:09        | 2.45     | 3.5     | JW0129     |
| 44  |                       | 5:34:53.2       | -5:33:09        |          |         | JW0129     |
| 45  | H97 115               | 5:34:50.3       | -5:32:55        | 0.11     | 0.1     | JW0129     |
| 46  | 2MASS J0534502-053328 | 5:34:50.1       | -5:33:29        |          | 0.1     | JW0129     |
| 47  | H97 153               | 5:34:55.2       | -5:30:22        | 3.08     | 3.0     | JW0153     |
| 48  |                       | 5:34:55.1       | -5:30:08        |          |         | JW0153     |
| 49  | H97 157               | 5:34:55.9       | -5:23:13        | 1.34     | 3.5     | JW0157     |
| 50  |                       | 5:34:54.5       | -5:23:02        |          |         | JW0157     |
| 51  | H97 171               | 5:34:57.0       | -5:23:00        | 0.17     |         | JW0157     |
| 52  | H97 175               | 5:34:57.7       | -5:22:51        | 0.23     |         | JW0157     |
| 53  | H97 163               | 5:34:56.7       | -5:11:33        | 0.68     | 0.8     | JW0163     |
| 54  | H97 160               | 5:34:56.5       | -5:11:14        | 0.27     | 0.2     | JW0163     |
| 55  |                       | 5:34:56.5       | -5:11:04        |          |         | JW0163     |
| 56  | H97 165               | 5:34:56.4       | -5:31:36        | 2.30     | 1.5     | JW0165     |
| 57  | H97 159               | 5:34:55.9       | -5:31:13        | 0.28     | 0.4     | JW0165     |
| 58  | H97 221               | 5:35:02.3       | -5:15:48        | 1.52     | > 4.0   | JW0221     |
| 59  | H97 3013              | 5:35:02.0       | -5:15:38        | 0.23     | 0.2     | JW0221     |
| 60  | 2MASS J0535035-051600 | 5:35:03.5       | -5:16:00        |          | 0.1     | JW0221     |
| 61  | H97 5042              | 5:35:03.3       | -5:16:23        |          | 0.4     | JW0221     |
| 62  | H97 232               | 5:35:02.9       | -5:30:01        | 1.45     | 5.0     | JW0232     |
| 63  | H97 218               | 5:35:01.8       | -5:30:19        | 0.15     | 0.1     | JW0232     |
| 64  | H97 235               | 5:35:03.4       | -5:29:26        |          | 0.5     | JW0232     |
| 65  | H97 252               | 5:35:04.4       | -5:29:38        | 0.69     |         | JW0232     |
| 66  | H97 256               | 5:35:04.5       | -5:29:36        | 0.21     |         | JW0232     |
| 67  | H97 260               | 5:35:05.1       | -5:14:51        | 4.13     | 3.5     | JW0260     |
| 68  | H97 282               | 5:35:06.0       | -5:14:25        | 0.12     | 0.3     | JW0260     |
| 69  | H97 240               | 5:35:04.2       | -5:15:22        | 0.38     | 0.2     | JW0260     |
| 70  | H97 364               | 5:35:11.5       | -5:16:58        | 3.04     | 2.5     | JW0364     |
| 71  | H97 386               | 5:35:12.6       | -5:16:53        | 0.31     | 2.0     | JW0364     |
| 72  | 2MASS J0535125-051633 | 5:35:12.4       | -5:16:34        |          | 3.0     | JW0364     |

Table A.6. Complete target list, continued.

| No. | Name                  | $\alpha_{2000}$ | $\delta_{2000}$ | H97 Mass | IR Mass | Guide star |
|-----|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|---------|------------|
| 73  |                       | 5:35:12.3       | -5:16:27        |          |         | JW0364     |
| 74  | H97 406               | 5:35:13.4       | -5:17:10        | 0.21     | 1.5     | JW0364     |
| 75  | H97 408               | 5:35:13.4       | -5:17:17        | 0.23     | 0.2     | JW0364     |
| 76  | 2MASS J0535131-051730 | 5:35:13.1       | -5:17:30        |          | 0.3     | JW0364     |
| 77  | H97 407               | 5:35:13.4       | -5:17:31        | 0.57     | 0.5     | JW0364     |
| 78  | H97 358               | 5:35:11.2       | -5:17:21        | 0.28     |         | JW0364     |
| 79  | H97 367               | 5:35:11.8       | -5:17:26        |          | 0.3     | JW0364     |
| 80  |                       | 5:35:10.8       | -5:17:33        |          |         | JW0364     |
| 81  | H97 5050              | 5:35:10.0       | -5:17:07        |          |         | JW0364     |
| 82  | H97 3166              | 5:35:09.2       | -5:16:57        | 0.29     |         | JW0364     |
| 83  | H97 421               | 5:35:13.5       | -5:30:58        | 0.62     | 5.0     | JW0421     |
| 84  | H97 416               | 5:35:13.4       | -5:30:48        | 0.21     | 0.2     | JW0421     |
| 85  | H97 371               | 5:35:11.6       | -5:31:02        |          |         | JW0421     |
| 86  | H97 428               | 5:35:13.7       | -5:30:24        | 0.25     | 0.3     | JW0421     |
| 87  | H97 381               | 5:35:12.1       | -5:30:33        | 0.32     | 0.9     | JW0421     |
| 88  | H97 585               | 5:35:18.4       | -5:16:38        | 0.35     | 2.0     | JW0585     |
| 89  | H97 593               | 5:35:18.5       | -5:16:35        | 0.67     |         | JW0585     |
| 90  | H97 574               | 5:35:18.1       | -5:16:34        | 0.15     |         | JW0585     |
| 91  | H97 612               | 5:35:19.2       | -5:16:45        | 0.20     | 0.2     | JW0585     |
| 92  | 2MASS J0535195-051703 | 5:35:19.5       | -5:17:03        |          | 3.0     | JW0585     |
| 93  | H97 564               | 5:35:17.9       | -5:16:45        |          |         | JW0585     |
| 94  | H97 525               | 5:35:16.8       | -5:17:03        | 0.17     |         | JW0585     |
| 95  | H97 523               | 5:35:16.7       | -5:16:54        | 0.15     |         | JW0585     |
| 96  | H97 5047              | 5:35:17.4       | -5:16:57        |          |         | JW0585     |
| 97  |                       | 5:35:16.5       | -5:16:22        |          |         | JW0585     |
| 98  |                       | 5:35:16.2       | -5:16:18        |          |         | JW0585     |
| 99  | H97 566               | 5:35:17.8       | -5:16:15        |          |         | JW0585     |
| 100 |                       | 5:35:17.4       | -5:16:14        |          |         | JW0585     |
| 101 |                       | 5:35:17.6       | -5:16:17        |          |         | JW0585     |
| 102 | H97 601               | 5:35:18.7       | -5:16:15        | 1.17     |         | JW0585     |
| 103 | H97 5041              | 5:35:19.3       | -5:16:09        |          | 0.1     | JW0585     |
| 104 | H97 5040              | 5:35:19.2       | -5:16:10        |          |         | JW0585     |
| 105 | H97 666               | 5:35:21.2       | -5:09:16        | 3.39     | 3.5     | JW0666     |
| 106 | 2MASS J0535206-050902 | 5:35:20.5       | -5:09:03        |          | 0.2     | JW0666     |
| 107 |                       | 5:35:21.3       | -5:09:04        |          |         | JW0666     |
| 108 | H97 705               | 5:35:22.3       | -5:09:11        |          | 0.6     | JW0666     |
| 109 | H97 671               | 5:35:21.3       | -5:09:42        | 0.29     | 0.1     | JW0666     |
| 110 | H97 676               | 5:35:21.5       | -5:09:38        | 0.69     | 0.1     | JW0666     |
| 111 |                       | 5:35:21.7       | -5:09:45        |          |         | JW0666     |
| 112 | H97 677               | 5:35:21.5       | -5:09:49        | 0.22     | 0.2     | JW0666     |
| 113 | H97 670               | 5:35:21.2       | -5:12:13        | 3.52     | 3.5     | JW0670     |
| 114 |                       | 5:35:20.1       | -5:12:11        |          |         | JW0670     |
| 115 | H97 747               | 5:35:23.7       | -5:30:47        | 1.75     | 1.4     | JW0747     |
| 116 | H97 715               | 5:35:22.2       | -5:31:17        | 0.11     | 0.1     | JW0747     |
| 117 | H97 788               | 5:35:25.5       | -5:30:38        | 0.17     | 0.3     | JW0747     |
| 118 | H97 784               | 5:35:25.5       | -5:30:21        |          | 0.6     | JW0747     |
| 119 | H97 787               | 5:35:25.3       | -5:30:22        | 0.30     |         | JW0747     |
| 120 | H97 779               | 5:35:25.6       | -5:09:50        | 0.95     | 0.8     | JW0779     |
| 121 | 2MASS J0535256-050942 | 5:35:25.5       | -5:09:42        |          | 0.1     | JW0779     |
| 122 | H97 765               | 5:35:25.1       | -5:09:29        | 0.19     | 0.5     | JW0779     |
| 123 | 2MASS J0535246-050926 | 5:35:24.5       | -5:09:27        |          | 0.0     | JW0779     |
| 124 | 2MASS J0535268-050924 | 5:35:26.7       | -5:09:25        |          | 0.5     | JW0779     |
| 125 | 2MASS J0535276-050937 | 5:35:27.5       | -5:09:37        |          | > 4.0   | JW0779     |
| 126 | H97 808               | 5:35:27.4       | -5:09:44        |          | 1.6     | JW0779     |
| 127 | 2MASS J0535269-050954 | 5:35:26.9       | -5:09:54        |          | 0.1     | JW0779     |
| 128 | 2MASS J0535269-051017 | 5:35:26.9       | -5:10:16        |          | > 4.0   | JW0779     |
| 129 | 2MASS J0535275-051008 | 5:35:27.5       | -5:10:08        |          | 0.1     | JW0779     |
| 130 | 2MASS J0535251-051023 | 5:35:25.0       | -5:10:23        |          | 0.5     | JW0779     |
| 131 | H97 790               | 5:35:26.2       | -5:08:40        | 2.04     | 1.5     | JW0790     |
| 132 | H97 785               | 5:35:26.0       | -5:08:38        |          | 0.2     | JW0790     |
| 133 | 2MASS J0535274-050903 | 5:35:27.3       | -5:09:03        |          | 0.1     | JW0790     |
| 134 | 2MASS J0535250-050909 | 5:35:25.0       | -5:09:10        |          | 0.1     | JW0790     |
| 135 | 2MASS J0535240-050906 | 5:35:24.0       | -5:09:07        |          | 0.1     | JW0790     |
| 136 | H97 794               | 5:35:26.2       | -5:15:12        | 1.93     | 1.4     | JW0794     |
| 137 |                       | 5:35:26.4       | -5:15:06        |          |         | JW0794     |
| 138 | H97 805               | 5:35:27.0       | -5:15:45        |          | 0.3     | JW0794     |
| 139 |                       | 5:35:26.9       | -5:15:37        |          |         | JW0794     |
| 140 | H97 767               | 5:35:25.2       | -5:15:36        | 0.26     | 1.0     | JW0794     |
| 141 | 2MASS J0535243-051457 | 5:35:24.3       | -5:14:59        |          | 0.1     | JW0794     |
| 142 | H97 803               | 5:35:26.8       | -5:11:08        | 3.71     | > 4.0   | JW0803     |
| 143 | H97 822               | 5:35:28.1       | -5:11:37        | 0.27     | 0.4     | JW0803     |
| 144 | H97 752               | 5:35:24.5       | -5:11:30        | 0.46     | 1.0     | JW0803     |
| 145 | H97 771               | 5:35:25.3       | -5:10:49        | 1.15     | 0.6     | JW0803     |
| 146 | H97 804               | 5:35:26.8       | -5:13:15        | 1.65     | 1.1     | JW0804     |
| 147 | H97 818               | 5:35:27.4       | -5:35:20        | 0.32     | 0.9     | JW0818     |

Table A.6. Complete target list, continued.

| No. | Name                  | $\alpha_{2000}$ | $\delta_{2000}$ | H97 Mass | IR Mass | Guide star |
|-----|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|---------|------------|
| 148 | H97 835               | 5:35:28.8       | -5:35:07        | 0.23     | 0.2     | JW0818     |
| 149 | H97 866               | 5:35:31.2       | -5:15:33        | 1.95     | 6.0     | JW0866     |
| 150 | H97 3010              | 5:35:31.4       | -5:15:24        |          | 0.2     | JW0866     |
| 151 | H97 3011              | 5:35:31.5       | -5:15:24        |          |         | JW0866     |
| 152 | H97 885               | 5:35:32.3       | -5:15:07        |          | 0.2     | JW0866     |
| 153 | H97 867               | 5:35:31.2       | -5:18:56        | 0.30     | 1.0     | JW0867     |
| 154 |                       | 5:35:31.4       | -5:19:42        |          |         | JW0867     |
| 155 |                       | 5:35:31.8       | -5:19:38        |          |         | JW0867     |
| 156 | H97 873               | 5:35:31.3       | -5:33:09        | 2.66     | 3.0     | JW0873     |
| 157 |                       | 5:35:31.2       | -5:33:11        |          |         | JW0873     |
| 158 | H97 847               | 5:35:29.7       | -5:32:54        | 1.09     | 1.6     | JW0873     |
| 159 | 2MASS J0535325-053258 | 5:35:32.4       | -5:32:58        |          | 0.1     | JW0873     |
| 160 | 2MASS J0535285-053304 | 5:35:28.5       | -5:33:06        |          | 0.1     | JW0873     |
| 161 |                       | 5:35:29.9       | -5:32:46        |          |         | JW0873     |
| 162 | H97 876               | 5:35:31.8       | -5:09:28        | 0.84     | 3.5     | JW0876     |
| 163 | 2MASS J0535338-050905 | 5:35:33.9       | -5:09:04        |          | 0.1     | JW0876     |
| 164 | H97 842               | 5:35:30.0       | -5:09:11        | 0.12     | 0.1     | JW0876     |
| 165 | H97 887               | 5:35:32.3       | -5:31:11        | 2.97     | 3.0     | JW0887     |
| 166 | H97 915               | 5:35:35.7       | -5:12:21        | 2.32     | 1.9     | JW0915     |
| 167 |                       | 5:35:35.5       | -5:12:16        |          |         | JW0915     |
| 168 | H97 928               | 5:35:37.3       | -5:26:40        |          | 1.1     | JW0928     |
| 169 | 2MASS J0535381-052627 | 5:35:38.0       | -5:26:26        |          | 0.1     | JW0928     |
| 170 | H97 912               | 5:35:35.1       | -5:26:54        | 0.23     | 0.3     | JW0928     |
| 171 | H97 930               | 5:35:37.5       | -5:27:14        | 0.57     | 0.2     | JW0928     |
| 172 | H97 950               | 5:35:40.4       | -5:27:02        |          | 0.6     | JW0950     |
| 173 |                       | 5:35:40.6       | -5:27:07        |          |         | JW0950     |
| 174 | H97 5121              | 5:35:39.9       | -5:27:10        |          | 0.1     | JW0950     |
| 175 | H97 962               | 5:35:42.4       | -5:27:33        | 0.58     | 0.7     | JW0950     |
| 176 | H97 959               | 5:35:41.9       | -5:28:13        | 2.41     | 2.7     | JW0959     |
| 177 |                       | 5:35:42.0       | -5:28:11        |          |         | JW0959     |
| 178 | H97 954               | 5:35:41.2       | -5:27:51        | 0.23     | 0.3     | JW0959     |
| 179 | H97 947               | 5:35:40.0       | -5:28:00        | 0.29     | 0.2     | JW0959     |
| 180 | H97 944               | 5:35:39.5       | -5:27:51        | 0.18     | 0.2     | JW0959     |
| 181 | H97 963               | 5:35:42.5       | -5:20:14        | 0.84     | 5.0     | JW0963     |
| 182 | 2MASS J0535420-052005 | 5:35:41.5       | -5:20:06        |          | 0.1     | JW0963     |
| 183 | 2MASS J0535427-051945 | 5:35:42.1       | -5:19:46        |          | 0.3     | JW0963     |
| 184 | 2MASS J0535435-052047 | 5:35:43.0       | -5:20:47        |          | 0.4     | JW0963     |
| 185 | 2MASS J0535436-052051 | 5:35:43.1       | -5:20:51        |          | 0.2     | JW0963     |
| 186 | H97 967               | 5:35:42.9       | -5:13:46        | 1.85     | 1.5     | JW0967     |
| 187 | H97 971               | 5:35:43.2       | -5:36:28        | 0.35     | 1.3     | JW0971     |
| 188 | H97 974               | 5:35:44.1       | -5:36:40        | 0.14     | 0.3     | JW0971     |
| 189 | H97 979               | 5:35:44.5       | -5:36:34        |          | 0.2     | JW0971     |
| 190 | 2MASS J0535410-053622 | 5:35:41.0       | -5:36:25        |          | 0.8     | JW0971     |
| 191 | H97 975               | 5:35:44.3       | -5:32:13        | 1.11     | 0.8     | JW0975     |
| 192 | H97 973               | 5:35:43.3       | -5:32:09        | 0.12     | 0.1     | JW0975     |
| 193 | H97 972               | 5:35:43.2       | -5:32:41        | 0.33     | 0.4     | JW0975     |
| 194 | H97 992               | 5:35:46.9       | -5:17:57        |          |         | JW0992     |
| 195 | H97 989               | 5:35:46.2       | -5:18:09        | 0.25     | 0.7     | JW0992     |
| 196 | H97 983               | 5:35:45.5       | -5:18:14        |          | 0.5     | JW0992     |
| 197 | H97 987               | 5:35:45.9       | -5:17:50        | 0.14     | 0.6     | JW0992     |
| 198 | H97 993               | 5:35:47.1       | -5:17:44        | 0.14     |         | JW0992     |
| 199 | 2MASS J0535485-051742 | 5:35:48.4       | -5:17:43        |          | 0.1     | JW0992     |
| 200 | H97 997               | 5:35:47.4       | -5:16:58        | 1.83     | 1.4     | JW0997     |
| 201 |                       | 5:35:47.3       | -5:17:00        |          |         | JW0997     |
| 202 | H97 991               | 5:35:46.7       | -5:16:48        | 1.24     | 0.2     | JW0997     |
| 203 |                       | 5:35:47.1       | -5:16:44        |          |         | JW0997     |
| 204 | H97 1015              | 5:35:50.4       | -5:28:35        | 2.52     | > 4.0   | JW1015     |
| 205 | H97 1020              | 5:35:51.9       | -5:28:47        | 0.62     | 0.5     | JW1015     |
| 206 | H97 1041              | 5:35:58.0       | -5:12:55        | 3.92     | 3.5     | JW1041     |
| 207 | H97 1605              | 5:34:46.9       | -5:34:15        | 4.47     | > 4.0   | Par1605    |
| 208 | 2MASS J0534468-053423 | 5:34:46.8       | -5:34:24        |          | 0.2     | Par1605    |
| 209 | H97 73                | 5:34:44.7       | -5:33:43        | 0.41     | 0.4     | Par1605    |
| 210 | H97 1744              | 5:35:05.0       | -5:12:16        | 4.81     | 3.5     | Par1744    |
| 211 | 2MASS J0535056-051150 | 5:35:04.4       | -5:11:51        |          | 0.8     | Par1744    |
| 212 | 2MASS J0535067-051145 | 5:35:05.5       | -5:11:46        |          | 0.3     | Par1744    |
| 213 | H97 264               | 5:35:05.6       | -5:11:50        |          |         | Par1744    |
| 214 | H97 2074              | 5:35:31.3       | -5:16:03        | 16.3     | > 4.0   | Par2074    |
| 215 | H97 877               | 5:35:31.9       | -5:16:00        |          |         | Par2074    |
| 216 | H97 882               | 5:35:32.1       | -5:16:04        |          |         | Par2074    |
| 217 | H97 3018              | 5:35:33.1       | -5:16:05        |          | 1.5     | Par2074    |
| 218 | H97 892               | 5:35:32.8       | -5:16:05        | 0.65     | 1.1     | Par2074    |
| 219 | H97 3014              | 5:35:32.5       | -5:15:51        |          | 0.2     | Par2074    |
| 220 | H97 3019              | 5:35:29.8       | -5:16:07        |          | 0.4     | Par2074    |
| 221 | H97 870               | 5:35:31.5       | -5:16:36        |          | 0.4     | Par2074    |
| 222 | H97 875               | 5:35:31.7       | -5:16:39        |          | 0.2     | Par2074    |

**Table A.6.** Complete target list, continued.

| No. | Name     | $\alpha_{2000}$ | $\delta_{2000}$ | H97 Mass | IR Mass | Guide star |
|-----|----------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|---------|------------|
| 223 | H97 879  | 5:35:32.0       | -5:16:20        |          | 0.3     | Par2074    |
| 224 | H97 5043 | 5:35:32.3       | -5:16:27        |          | 0.1     | Par2074    |
| 225 | H97 834  | 5:35:28.9       | -5:16:19        |          | 1.5     | Par2074    |
| 226 | H97 837  | 5:35:29.5       | -5:16:34        | 0.34     | 0.6     | Par2074    |
| 227 | H97 2284 | 5:35:57.5       | -5:22:31        | 2.98     | 2.7     | Par2284    |
| 228 |          | 5:35:57.3       | -5:22:30        |          |         | Par2284    |