The TW Hydrae Association is a cluster chain of Sco-Cen

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ABSTRACT

The TW Hydrae Association (TWA) is a young local association (YLA) about 50 pc from the Sun, offering a unique opportunity to study star and planet formation processes in detail. We characterized TWA's location, kinematics, and age, investigating its origin within the Scorpius-Centaurus (Sco-Cen) OB association. Using Gaia DR3 astrometric data and precise ground-based radial velocities, we identified substructures within TWA, tentatively dividing them into TWA-a and TWA-b. Sco-Cen's massive cluster σ Cen (15 Myr, 1805 members) may have influenced TWA's formation. The alignment of σ Cen, TWA-a, and TWA-b in 3D positions, velocities, and ages resembles patterns in regions such as Corona Australis, suggesting that TWA is part of a cluster chain from sequential star formation induced by massive stars in Sco-Cen. TWA's elongation in the opposite direction to that produced by Galactic differential rotation indicates its shape is still influenced by its formation processes and will dissipate in less than 50 Myr due to Galactic forces. These findings unveil the nature of YLAs and low-mass clusters in a new light. We propose that clusters such as ϵ Chamaeleontis, η Chamaeleontis, and TWA were forged by stellar feedback from massive stars in Sco-Cen, while others–such as β Pictoris, Carina, Columba, and Tucana-Horologium–are older and formed differently. Remarkably, all these YLAs and Sco-Cen are part of the α Persei cluster family, a vast kiloparsec-scale star formation event active over the past 60 Myr. This suggests that YLAs are the smallest stellar structures emerging from major star formation episodes and should be common in the Milky Way. Crucially, their formation in regions with intense stellar feedback may have influenced planet formation in these systems.

Key words. stars: formation - stars: kinematics and dynamics - open clusters and associations: individual: TW Hydrae Association

1. Introduction

The solar neighborhood offers the opportunity to study star formation with a unique resolution. The excellent astrometry of *Gaia* (Gaia Collaboration 2016) has unraveled many new structures and revolutionized the picture we have of our Galaxy. In the solar vicinity (<200 pc), where the astrometry is most precise, we can now discern intricate stellar substructures (3–10 pc) within large star-forming regions (spanning around 100 pc) that were previously undetectable (Zucker et al. 2023). These new findings challenge the traditional classification of star clusters, historically divided into gravitationally bound open clusters and unbound associations.

Stellar associations are often named according to their stellar content. Those containing massive stars are referred to as OB associations (Wright et al. 2023), while those with only low-mass stars were detectable only in the solar vicinity before *Gaia* and are often referred to as young local associations (YLAs) or moving groups¹ (Torres et al. 2008; Fernández et al. 2008;

Riedel et al. 2017; Gagné et al. 2018). Identifying a complete census of YLAs requires specialized techniques to detect lowdensity clusters containing mainly low-mass stars hidden in a large population of Galactic field stars. Additionally, it is important to account for significant projection effects when analyzed in 5D. While the unprecedented astrometric precision of *Gaia* has expanded the detection range of low-mass clusters, distinguishing between bound and unbound clusters remains a significant observational challenge (Hunt & Reffert 2024). Hereafter, we use the term "cluster" to refer to any group of co-eval stars, regardless of their gravitational boundness, "low-mass cluster" to refer to groups with up to a few hundred stars that are unbound, and "YLAs" to refer to historically well-known low-mass clusters in the solar vicinity (within 100 pc).

The TW Hydrae Association (TWA) is one of the closest, youngest, and most popular YLAs, located at about 50 pc from the Sun and with an age of around 10 Myr (Gagné et al. 2018; Luhman 2023). Its proximity and youth make it a key benchmark region for star and planet formation studies (see e.g., Calvet et al. 2002; Chauvin et al. 2004; Andrews et al. 2016; Cieza et al. 2016; Flaherty et al. 2020). Therefore, obtaining an accurate census, age, and understanding of its origin is crucial. TWA was discovered by identifying luminous infrared and X-ray stars around the star TW Hydrae (TW Hya, de la Reza et al. 1989; Kastner et al. 1997; Webb et al. 1999). Since then, its membership has been

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¹ The term "moving group" is frequently used to name groups of comoving stars influenced by resonances in the Galactic potential. These stars are typically older and may not share a common origin (Eggen 1965; Antoja et al. 2018). Hereafter, we refer to low-mass associations in the solar vicinity as YLAs.

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Fig. 1. 3D distribution of Sco-Cen and TWA in heliocentric Cartesian coordinates centered on the Sun's location (red cross). The surfaces of the clusters are color-coded by cluster age. The TWA cluster chain is labeled separately, starting from σ Cen (older) and extending toward TWA (younger), divided into TWA-a and TWA-b. This is an updated version of Figure 1 in Ratzenböck et al. (2023b), where we added the clusters in TWA. An interactive 3D figure can be found online.

continually refined via various observations and techniques, with the most recent works being the BANYAN project (Gagné et al. 2017, 2018; Gagné & Faherty 2018) and Luhman (2023). TW Hya, a T Tauri star accreting from a face-on protoplanetary disk (Kastner et al. 2002; Andrews et al. 2016; Herczeg et al. 2023), is the most well-known member of TWA, giving the cluster its name. Other remarkable members include brown dwarfs (e.g., Schneider et al. 2016) and stars hosting exoplanets (e.g., Chauvin et al. 2005; Luhman et al. 2023).

Several YLAs, including TWA, have been suggested to share a common origin with Scorpius Centaurus (Sco-Cen), the closest OB association to the Sun (see e.g., Mamajek & Feigelson 2001; de la Reza et al. 2006; Makarov 2007; Fernández et al. 2008). Recent studies have revised the census of Sco-Cen with Gaia data (see e.g., Damiani et al. 2019; Krause et al. 2018; Kerr et al. 2021; Squicciarini et al. 2021; Miret-Roig et al. 2022; Žerjal et al. 2023; Briceño-Morales & Chanamé 2023). In particular, Ratzenböck et al. (2023a,b) identified 34 clusters within Sco-Cen showing coherent patterns in 3D positions, velocities, and age. These findings indicate that star formation in Sco-Cen began in the inner regions, with the most significant burst occurring around 15 Myr ago. Star formation then spread outward over the past 10 Myr through filamentary gas structures that eventually became cluster chains. Sco-Cen contains at least three cluster chains: Corona Australis (CrA), Upper Scorpius (USC), and Lower-Centaurus-Crux (LCC), whose properties are analyzed in detail by Posch et al. (2023, 2025). These works conclude that the cluster chains in Sco-Cen formed due to stellar feedback (winds and supernovae) from the most massive starburst in Sco-Cen. The importance of stellar feedback for the formation of the young populations in Sco-Cen was also suggested by earlier studies (e.g., Bouy & Alves 2015; Krause et al. 2018). This work investigates the formation of TWA and its connection to Sco-Cen.

2. Data

Our sample is based on the most recent census of TWA (Luhman 2023) and Sco-Cen (Ratzenböck et al. 2023a,b), analyzed with *Gaia* DR3 astrometry (Gaia Collaboration 2023) and *Gaia* plus ground-based radial velocities. Figure 1 illustrates the 3D positions and ages of the sample in heliocentric Cartesian coordinates, centered on the Sun's location. In this system, X increases toward the Galactic center, Y toward the direction of Galactic rotation, and Z toward the north Galactic pole. Notably, the 3D position and age of TWA align with the core of Sco-Cen and its nearest massive cluster, σ Cen. In this section, we describe the TWA dataset and define two reference samples within Sco-Cen.

2.1. TWA

We took the most recent census of TWA based on *Gaia* DR3 data, which contains 66 members identified by Luhman (2023) and the BANYAN project (Gagné et al. 2017, 2018; Gagné & Faherty 2018). Thanks to the proximity of TWA members, at a median distance of 65 pc, the *Gaia* astrometry is

Table 1. Properties of the TWA chain.

Cluster	#men All	nbers HQ	Age (Myr)	$ \mathbf{X}_{\sigma Cen} $ (pc)	$ \mathbf{V}_{\sigma Cen} $ (km/s)	X (pc)	Y (pc)	Z (pc)	U (km/s)	V (km/s)	W (km/s)
$\frac{1}{\sigma \text{ Cen}_{>15\text{Myr}}}$	7511 1805	_	15-20 15^{+1}_{-1}	_		$106 \pm 38 \\ 60 \pm 12$	-70 ± 27 -96 ± 14	$\begin{array}{c} 27 \pm 15 \\ 17 \pm 10 \end{array}$	-6.9 ± 5.8 -8.6 ± 1.7	-19.9 ± 2.7 -20.7 ± 2.5	-5.6 ± 1.9 -6.2 ± 1.2
TWA-a	45	15	9^{+2}_{-1}	51 ± 10	4.2 ± 1.1	25 ± 12	-61 ± 12	26 ± 8	-12.1 ± 1.1	-19.0 ± 1.4	-6.2 ± 0.7
TWA-b	21	14	6^{+2}_{-1}	78 ± 4	6.2 ± 1.0	6 ± 4	-40 ± 6	23 ± 7	-13.6 ± 0.9	-17.0 ± 1.24	-7.2 ± 1.7

Notes. Columns indicate (1) cluster (or sample) name, (2–3) the number of members (total and in the 6D high-quality sample), (4) age, (5) 3D distance ($|X_{\sigma Cen}|$) and (6) relative speed ($|V_{\sigma Cen}|$) to the σ Cen cluster, (7–9) 3D heliocentric positions (*XYZ*) and (10–12) velocities (*UVW*). For columns 5–12, we provide the median and standard deviation of the cluster members, the standard deviations are dominated by the intrinsic scatter rather than the errors on the medians. The velocities of the TWA-a and TWA-b samples are computed with the TWA-6D-HQ sample.

exceptionally precise with a median error of 0.04 mas in parallax and 0.04 mas/year in proper motion. Since the median parallax relative error is 0.3%, we inverted the parallaxes to obtain distances. This sample has a median uncertainty of 0.07 pc in 3D Cartesian positions and 0.06 km/s in 2D tangential velocities. These are crucial for the detailed study that we aim to make where the location and motion of individual stars are important. Unfortunately, while *Gaia* DR3 provides a radial velocity measurement for 39 stars in our sample, the errors are up to 10 km/s, too large for a precise kinematic analysis.

To complement the high-precision 5D astrometry, we determined a radial velocity for 24 stars from high-resolution spectra in public archives, with a median error of 0.9 km/s. A detailed description of our methodology to determine radial velocities and combine them with public measurements is provided in Appendix A. We considered only radial velocity measurements, with an error below <2 km/s, to produce our final TWA 6D highquality sample (hereafter, TWA-6D-HQ sample). This threshold is a compromise between precision and sample size. We then combined the radial velocities determined in this work with the public catalogs from Gaia DR3 and a heterogeneous literature compilation by Luhman (2023). When more than one precise measurement (error <2 km/s) was available for the same star, we averaged them, excluding spectroscopic binary candidates. This process yielded 29 stars with a median radial velocity error of 0.6 km/s and a maximum error of 1.8 km/s. This sample is provided in Table A.2.

2.2. Reference samples in Sco-Cen

We used the most recent census of Sco-Cen based on Gaia DR3 data (Ratzenböck et al. 2023a,b) to define two reference samples that are then compared to the position and motion of TWA. Sco-Cen contains around 13 000 members divided into 34 clusters, with ages of up to 20 Myr and a median distance of 140 pc. This sample has a median parallax relative error of 0.7%, and therefore, we also inverted the parallaxes to obtain distances. Contrary to TWA, which has few tens of known members and where we need precise information on individual stars, Sco-Cen contains thousands of stars, and the locus and motion of the reference samples are sufficient for this study. Therefore, we took all stars with Gaia astrometry and radial velocities, without the careful treatment of radial velocities applied to TWA members. The median radial velocity error is about 4 km/s but the large number of stars minimizes the impact of imprecise measurements, contaminants, and spectroscopic binaries.

We considered two reference samples in Sco-Cen. The first one is defined by the median 3D positions and velocities of stars older than 15 Myr and we refer to it as Sco-Cen_{>15Myr}. This reference sample represents the most massive episode of star formation in Sco-Cen that gave birth to about 15 supernovae in the past 13 Myr (Breitschwerdt et al. 2016; Zucker et al. 2022). The Sco-Cen clusters older than 15 Myr are Libra-South, Pipe-North, US-foreground, V1062-Sco, e Lup, η Lup, μ Sco, ν Cen, ϕ Lup, σ Cen, θ Oph. The second reference sample is the center of σ Cen, the closest cluster to TWA and the most massive cluster in Sco-Cen. This cluster has an age of 15 Myr and contains 1805 members (822 with a Gaia DR3 radial velocity). The heliocentric 3D positions and velocities of these two reference samples are provided in Table 1.

3. Results

In this section, we analyze the distribution in 3D positions, 3D velocities, and age of TWA members and compare them to the rest of the clusters in Sco-Cen. Finally, we investigate the origin and near future of TWA.

3.1. Substructure

TWA members show evidence of a bimodal pattern in 3D Cartesian positions, suggesting that TWA might be substructured. This pattern is particularly noticeable along the TWA elongation direction, which approximately coincides with the XY projected Galactic plane (see, for example, the density contours plotted in Fig. 2). The bimodality is less evident in the vertical plane where the dispersion is lower and both potential subclusters have similar Z positions. The separation between the two subpopulations is most evident along the axis perpendicular to their dividing line, which explains why it may not be noticeable in certain subspaces. Ultimately, detecting this separation using the full 3D information is crucial, as we discuss later in this section. TWA's elongation aligns with the center of σ Cen in 3D position space. The reference sample Sco-Cen_{>15Myr} aligns with σ Cen and TWA along some subspaces (e.g., XZ) but is misaligned in 3D positions (see Figure B.1). For this reason, we take σ Cen as the reference sample for this study and discuss the connections to Sco-Cen_{>15Myr} in Section 4 and Appendix B.

We computed the 3D distance $(|\mathbf{X}_{\sigma Cen}|)$ and relative speed $(|\mathbf{V}_{\sigma Cen}|)$ of TWA members with respect to the reference sample σ Cen. Figure 3 (top panel) shows the distribution of relative distances of TWA members to the center of the σ Cen $(|\mathbf{X}_{\sigma Cen}|)$. The bimodality of the distribution of TWA members is also apparent in $|\mathbf{X}_{\sigma Cen}|$ when using a kernel density estimate with bandwidths from Scott and Silverman's rules (Scott 1979). To solidify this observation, we applied Silverman's modality test



Fig. 2. 2D projections of the 3D heliocentric Cartesian XYZ distribution of TWA-a (red dots) and TWA-b (blue dots). The 2D density of TWA members is represented by the contour lines (black) and the members of σ Cen are the gray dots.

(Silverman 1981) to investigate the modality of the given data $|\mathbf{X}_{\sigma Cen}|$. To ensure the robustness of our findings, we employed the calibrated version of the test as proposed by Hall & York (2001). The results indicate that the data exhibit more than a single mode with a probability of more than 90% (95 ± 5%). This suggests evidence of multimodality within the data, further reinforcing the need for a detailed examination of its underlying structure.

To characterize the properties of the two overdensities empirically observed in TWA, we fitted a 1D Gaussian mixture model (GMM) with two components to the distance of TWA members relative to σ Cen ($|\mathbf{X}_{\sigma Cen}|$), using the Python package Sklearn (Pedregosa et al. 2011). This space allows us to use the 3D Cartesian positions information, enhances the bimodal pattern of the sample, and reduces dimensionality which is more suitable given the low number of stars in the sample. This classification contains two clusters of 45 stars (TWA-a, including the TW Hya star) and 21 stars (TWA-b). The median properties of these clusters are listed in Table 1. The 3D position vectors from σ Cen to TWA-a and TWA-b are aligned in 3D with a difference of less than 20°. The probability density function of the angle θ between two random vectors is given by $p(\theta) = 0.5 \sin(\theta)$. This comes from the fact that the cosine of the distribution of two random vectors is uniformly distributed over the interval [-1,1] (see e.g., Bertsekas & Tsitsiklis 2008). Then, the probability of getting an angle of 20° if the 3D position vectors between TWA-a and



Fig. 3. Distribution of distances and relative speeds of TWA members compared to the center of σ Cen. Top: normalized distribution of the distances of TWA stars to the reference sample σ Cen. All stars in our initial sample are included and the bandwidth of the kernel estimate is 6.5 pc (Scott's rule). Bottom: 2D Distribution of the distances and relative speeds of TWA members to the center of σ Cen for the stars with precise radial velocities (TWA-6D-HQ sample). The black line indicates the linear fit, with a slope of 0.100 ± 0.015 km/s/pc.

TWA-b were randomly distributed would be around 3%, which is very unlikely.

We performed a second classification, this time fitting a GMM to the 2D space distance and relative speed to σ Cen (see Fig. 3, bottom panel). We used only the TWA-6D-HQ sample for this classification since not all the TWA stars have a precise radial velocity. The two clusters resulting from this classification contain 15 stars (TWA-a) and 14 stars (TWA-b). This solution is equivalent to the one obtained only with the position information but only available for the members with precise radial velocities. Therefore, we use the complete solution to study the 3D positions and age distributions of TWA and the (equivalent) solution with precise radial velocities to analyze the kinematics of TWA.

The detailed censuses of TWA-a and TWA-b should be confirmed using more advanced methods, searching for members within a larger volume. Since TWA extends from σ Cen toward the direction of the Sun, it has strong projection effects when analyzed only with the 5D astrometry of *Gaia*. Large catalogs of precise radial velocities are crucial to revising and extending the current census of TWA. However, the two clusters identified in this section are sufficient to investigate the speed and age distributions of TWA and compare them to Sco-Cen, which are the main goals of this study.

3.2. Speed gradient

In this section, we examine the kinematics of TWA, specifically focusing on their motion relative to the σ Cen reference sample. We used only the stars with precise radial velocities (TWA-6D-HQ sample) and calculated the relative speed of each star with respect to the median velocity of σ Cen ($|V_{\sigma Cen}|$). Figure 3 (bottom panel) shows a speed gradient in which the TWA stars at higher distances from σ Cen are moving at larger speeds away from it. The regression between velocity and position is a sign of cluster expansion and has been measured in several young clusters and OB associations (see e.g., Blaauw 1964; Brown et al. 1997; Torres et al. 2006; Kuhn et al. 2019; Swiggum et al. 2021; Wright et al. 2023). We tested the statistical significance of the gradient by fitting a linear regression model to the relative speed as a function of distance to σ Cen space, using the Ordinary Least Square routine from the Statsmodels Python package (Seabold & Perktold 2010). The R^2 of the fit is 0.6 and the null hypothesis that the slope is zero (i.e., no correlation) can be discarded with a p-value of $4.0 \cdot 10^{-7}$. The slope of the fit corresponds to an average expansion age of 9.8 ± 1.5 Myr, similar to the isochrone age of the older population in TWA.

The average relative speeds of TWA-a and TWA-b are reported in Table 1. The 3D velocity difference between the two clusters is larger than the standard deviation, indicating that they move at slightly different speeds. The velocity vectors from σ Cen to TWA-a and TWA-b are aligned with a difference of less than 10°. The probability that this angle comes from a random distribution is very small, of only 0.8%.

3.3. Age gradient

We fitted the PARSEC v1.2S (hereafter Parsec; Marigo et al. 2017) isochrones with the algorithm presented in Ratzenböck et al. (2023b) in the $(M_G, BP-RP)$ color-magnitude diagram (CMD). This is the same strategy used by these authors to determine the ages in the Sco-Cen clusters. We only considered stars brighter than absolute magnitude $M_G < 10$ mag, as the Parsec models below this threshold are less accurate than other models designed for low-mass stars (e.g., BHAC15; Baraffe et al. 2015, ATMO2020; Phillips et al. 2020) and the photometry, especially in the BP filter, is less accurate for these fainter and redder stars (Montegriffo et al. 2023). This algorithm fits the observed photometry to the theoretical isochrones with a Bayesian model that accounts for unresolved binaries and extinction in the choice of deviations around the isochrone curve. The extinction inferred by the algorithm is negligible as expected for such nearby clusters. The final reported ages and associated uncertainties are estimated from the posterior age distribution and correspond to the maximum a posteriori (MAP) and the 95% high-density interval, respectively.

We determined an isochronal age of 9^{+2}_{-1} Myr for TWA-a and 6^{+2}_{-1} Myr for TWA-b. The absolute CMD of the two clusters and the best-fit isochrones are represented in Figure 4. Combining these new ages with the 3D distribution of the clusters, we find an age gradient along TWA, where older stars are closer to σ Cen. Five stars classified as part of the older cluster (TWA-a) appear brighter than the younger isochrone (6 Myr). Three of these are spectroscopic binaries (open squares) and the other two do not have precise radial velocity measurements and are potential binary candidates. Only one TWA-b member is visually closer to the older (9 Myr) isochrone, and this has an absolute magnitude $M_G \sim 10$ mag, and its BP photometry might be more uncertain. Excluding these few particularities, TWA-b members appear slightly younger than TWA-a members. Another indication that stars brighter than the isochrone model are likely binaries is that they have high values in the Gaia parameters sensitive to binaries (see e.g., Lindegren et al. 2021). These stars have high (>1.4) $ruwe^2$ and high (10–100) ipd_frac_multi_peak³ values. Luhman (2023) suggested that

² Renormalized Unit Weight Error.

³ Fraction of CCD observations where image parameter determination (IPD) detected more than one peak.



Fig. 4. Absolute color-magnitude diagram of TWA-a (red) and TWA-b (blue) members. The best-fit Parsec isochrones for each cluster, 9 and 6 Myr, are overplotted. The open squares indicate the spectroscopic binaries identified in this work (see Appendix A). Only stars with $M_G < 10$ mag were used for the isochrone fit (black horizontal lines). The isochrone fit was done on the CMDs using the BP-RP color (upper panels). The CMDs showing the G-RP color (lower panels) are included for completeness.

the stars that appear too red on the G-RP CMD could be marginally resolved binaries with underestimated G-band fluxes (i.e., overestimated G-magnitudes).

We compare the relative ages between the clusters in the same cluster chain to investigate the age gradient. This way we find that σ Cen is the oldest cluster (15 Myr) followed by TWA-a (9 Myr), and TWA-b (6 Myr). This age gradient coincides with the pattern observed in positions and velocities in the previous subsections. Since these ages were estimated using the same methodology and evolutionary models, they are on the same scale and the relative age differences can be trusted even if the absolute values remain highly model-dependent. The reported age uncertainties represent the 1σ credible interval of the isochrone fitting algorithm. They do not reflect the different ages obtained from changing the input physics of evolutionary models, which is one of the main sources of uncertainty of isochrone fitting ages. Kinematic ages provide a complementary

age determination to evolutionary models but require an accurate cluster census and precise radial velocities that are still missing for a significant number of members (see e.g., Miret-Roig et al. 2020, 2024; Kerr et al. 2022; Couture et al. 2023; Quintana et al. 2023; Pelkonen et al. 2024).

In Appendix C, we compiled a list of literature ages of TWA using different methodologies. Previous age determinations range from 7 to 13 Myr (see Table C.1). The ages we determined for TWA-a and TWA-b are consistent and slightly younger than earlier estimates. The age variations are primarily due to differences in the samples and the evolutionary models used.

3.4. Time evolution

The elongated shape of TWA is remarkable (see Figs. 1 and 2), but the direction of elongation is opposite to what is expected from Galactic differential rotation. Stars closer to the Galactic center (positive X) are lagging behind compared to stars farther out. This contrasts with the well-known effect of Galactic differential rotation, where stars closer to the Galactic center complete their orbits around the Galaxy in shorter times and overtake the stars at larger Galactic radii (see e.g., Lindblad et al. 1973; Olano 1982, and many posterior works). This demonstrates that the current kinematics of TWA is still primordial, influenced by the initial conditions rather than Galactic evolution.

We integrated the orbits of stars in the TWA-6D-HQ sample 9 Myr back in time (to the birth time of TWA-a) and 50 Myr forward in time using the Python package Galpy (Bovy 2015) and a standard 3D Milky Way potential (McMillan 2017). As expected for such a low-density cluster, these orbits assume negligible interactions between stars. Figure 5 shows the positions of the TWA stars at the birth time of TWA-a (9 Myr ago), in the present, after 25 Myr, and after 50 Myr. According to our age estimate, the TWA-b stars were not yet born 9 Myr ago, and the open circles trace the approximate location of the parent gas cloud at that time. To display the positions of stars at different times, we used a 3D Cartesian system that is centered on the Sun (R = 8.21 kpc) at present and rotates around the Galactic center with a circular velocity of ω_{\odot} = 28.39 km/s/kpc. We refer to this system as a rotating Local Standard of Rest (rLSR). At all times, the radial component (X) points toward the Galactic center, the azimuthal component (Y) points toward the direction of Galactic rotation and the vertical component (Z) points toward the North Galactic pole. At present, this coordinate system is equivalent to the one used for the rest of the Figures.

We fitted a linear regression model in the (X, Y) plane for each of the three snapshots. The slope is negative in the present, but within a few tens of millions of years, the correlation between X and Y reverses, and Galactic shear begins to dominate. In less than 50 Myr, the primordial kinematic distribution is completely erased and the elongation on the Galactic plane aligns with the direction of elongation of disk streams and tidal tails. This exercise shows how gravitationally unbound clusters younger than about 30 Myr preserve the initial conditions of star formation. Afterward, the positions and kinematics are strongly affected or dominated by the Galactic potential.

4. Discussion

After revisiting the location, kinematics, and age of TWA with respect to the Sco-Cen OB association, we conclude that TWA is part of Sco-Cen, forming another chain of clusters similar to CrA, LCC, and USC (see Posch et al. 2023, 2025). The TWA



Fig. 5. (*X*, *Y*) projected distribution of TWA-a (red) and TWA-b (blue) members, 9 Myr ago, in the present, in 25 Myr, and 50 Myr from now (from left to right), for the stars in the TWA-6D-HQ sample. The blue open circles in the -9 Myr (left) panel indicate that the stars in TWA-b were not born yet and trace the location of their parent gas. The locus of σ Cen is indicated (black cross). The coordinate system is centered on the Sun's position in the present and rotates with the Local Standard of Rest (rLSR), so the Galactic Center (GC) is always on the same axis and direction (positive *X*). The linear fit on the (*X*, *Y*) plane has a slope of -0.51 ± 0.15 (present), -0.10 ± 0.07 (in 25 Myr), and 0.58 ± 0.06 (in 50 Myr).

chain was not initially identified by the algorithm of Ratzenböck et al. (2023a) because it was partially outside the survey volume and because of the strong projection effects when analyzed in 5D due to its proximity to the Sun. Reexamining the properties of TWA from the most recent census (Luhman 2023), we found that TWA shows evidence of substructure, sharing all the characteristics of the rest of chains in Sco-Cen, namely spatialtemporal patterns, accelerated motion, and mass decline (Posch et al. 2025). In this section, we compare the properties of TWA to the other chains in Sco-Cen and present a formation scenario for low-mass unbound clusters.

4.1. Properties and formation of cluster chains

4.1.1. Spatial and temporal alignment

The cluster chains identified in Sco-Cen have a characteristic spatial configuration in which older clusters are located in the inner regions and younger clusters extend to the outer regions, sequentially ordered by age (see Fig. 1). This is especially evident for the LCC and CrA chains. The USC chain is the most massive, more than twice the mass of the other two chains. Its spatial distribution is more complex and its formation might have been more chaotic (Posch et al. 2025). TWA also follows a clear spatio-temporal sequence similar to LCC and CrA, with TWA-a being older and closer to Sco-Cen's center than TWA-b.

4.1.2. Accelerated motion

Cluster chains also exhibit distinctive kinematics. Young stars are moving away from the center of Sco-Cen and the younger they are the faster they are moving away, indicating the presence of a source of momentum injection at the core of Sco-Cen. Posch et al. (2025) measured an acceleration of 0.4–0.7 km/s/Myr along the CrA, LCC, and USC chains. Großschedl (in prep.) found a compatible value of about 0.35–0.4 km/s/Myr when calculating this value for all clusters in Sco-Cen using Sco-Cen_{>15Myr} as the reference sample. We fitted a linear relation between the relative speed and the age of σ Cen, TWA-a, and TWA-b, resulting in an average acceleration of 0.68 ± 0.06 km/s/Myr (see Fig. 6). This value is similar (at the upper limit) to the rest of the cluster chains in Sco-Cen. TWA is the least massive of all chains, with only 66 known members. Therefore, assuming all chains were exposed to similar energy



Fig. 6. Relative speed to σ Cen ($|V_{\sigma Cen}|$) as a function of the cluster birth time (negative age) for the clusters in the TWA chain. The linear fit with a slope of 0.68 ± 0.06 km/s/Myr is indicated (black line).

and momentum injections from the massive cluster formation in Sco-Cen 15 Myr ago, the least massive chain should display the largest acceleration. A detailed momentum analysis of CrA, USC, and LCC is presented in Posch et al. (2023, 2025).

All these chains still have primordial kinematics, likely affected by stellar feedback, since they often display motions inexplicable from the Galactic potential alone. For example, CrA and LCC show accelerations in the vertical motion, where stars further away from the plane are the ones moving away from it at the highest speeds (Posch et al. 2023). In the case of TWA, we showed how its elongation on the Galactic plane is also opposite to that produced by Galactic differential rotation. This offers an excellent opportunity to study the initial conditions of star formation since after a few tens of Myr they are erased by the Galactic potential.

4.1.3. Decline in mass

Posch et al. (2025) has also found that the mass of the clusters in a chain decreases over time, with the first-generation clusters being the most massive. To explain this trend, the authors proposed that the progenitor gas of the chains was part of the same cloud complex that formed the more massive clusters in Sco-Cen but was not completely consumed during the formation of these massive clusters. The mass decrease over time was attributed to the diminishing gas reservoir available for forming subsequent clusters in the chain. According to these authors, the diminishing gas reservoir would be a consequence not only of converting some of the gas into stars but also of the dispersive effect of feedback on the cloud. The TWA chain also follows this decline in mass trend. The cluster σ Cen is the oldest and most massive, TWA-a (9⁺²₋₁ Myr) has 45 members, and TWA-b (6⁺²₋₁ Myr) has 21 members. A more detailed and dedicated clustering search should be applied to TWA to confirm this result.

4.1.4. Sequential star formation

The star formation history of Sco-Cen has been revisited by many studies using Gaia data (see e.g., Damiani et al. 2019; Krause et al. 2018; Kerr et al. 2021; Squicciarini et al. 2021; Miret-Roig et al. 2022; Žerjal et al. 2023; Briceño-Morales & Chanamé 2023). In particular, the works of Ratzenböck et al. (2023b); Posch et al. (2023, 2025) argue that star formation began at the core of Sco-Cen in a large star formation burst 15 Myr ago that formed around 8000 stars (60% of the total population in Sco-Cen). These are the most massive clusters containing OB stars that recently exploded in around 15 supernovae (Breitschwerdt et al. 2016; Zucker et al. 2022). The stellar feedback from these stars accelerated and compressed the surrounding gas, propagating star formation outward in the form of different coherent chains. This feedback-driven formation aligns with previous studies (Bouy & Alves 2015; Krause et al. 2018) and supports a theory of sequential star formation among stellar subgroups (Elmegreen & Lada 1977). The cluster chains in Sco-Cen are typically less than 10 Myr old, with several episodes of star formation, some still ongoing in some regions. For example, Ophiuchus is still forming stars at the end of the USC chain, and the CrA molecular cloud contains the leftover material of the CrA chain.

The results of this work show that the formation of TWA aligns well with this scenario. The σ Cen cluster appears to be the most likely progenitor of the TWA chain, based on its proximity and similar kinematic properties. However, all the massive clusters born 15 Myr ago contributed to the overall injection of energy and momentum that triggered star formation along the chains. Stellar feedback from these massive stars propagated isotropically, but star formation was only triggered in regions with sufficiently high gas density. As a result, the current configuration of Sco-Cen was largely shaped by the spatial distribution of its parent molecular cloud complex.

Ratzenböck et al. (2023b) identified four star formation bursts in Sco-Cen, separated by about 5 Myr. According to their study, the second burst (about 15 Myr ago) was the most prominent, giving birth to σ Cen among other clusters. The ages of the two substructures in TWA fit this picture very well with TWA-a being part of the third burst (8–10 Myr ago) simultaneously to other clusters such as ϵ Chamaeleontis (ϵ Cha), η Chamaeleontis (η Cha), and CrA-Main. The age of TWA-b is compatible with the ages of the third and fourth (3–5 Myr ago) bursts. However, the lack of leftover material at the end of the chain makes TWAb more likely to have formed in the third burst, together with TWA-a.

TWA and LCC share many properties, they are the least massive chains, are closest to the σ Cen cluster, have ages between 6 and 10 Myr, and star formation propagated simultaneously. According to the most recent 3D dust map of our local Galaxy (Edenhofer et al. 2024), there are no signs of significant leftover material at the ends of the LCC and TWA chains. These two An orbital traceback analysis shows that the closest approach of the center of TWA-a and TWA-b was 9 pc around 10 Myr ago. These two clusters were both closest, at 20 pc, to the center of σ Cen about 12 Myr ago, sometime between the age of σ Cen and TWA-a. Feedback from the massive stars in σ Cen and the rest of massive clusters older than 15 Myr could have accelerated the progenitor gas of TWA and eventually triggered star formation of TWA-a, about 9 Myr ago, and of TWA-b, about 6 Myr ago. Whether the formation of TWA was in the form of two episodes (TWA-a and TWA-b) or a continuous process is still unknown. This analysis neglects the accelerations to the progenitor clouds produced by stellar feedback and is only a first-order approximation of the cluster orbits.

4.2. YLAs are the last and lowest-mass stellar outcomes of star formation

Several studies have related the origin of several YLAs to Sco-Cen (see e.g., Mamajek & Feigelson 2001; Fernández et al. 2008; Bouy & Alves 2015). The precision of Gaia data and advanced analysis techniques have recently provided Sco-Cen's demography with unprecedented detail. In particular, the recent census of Ratzenböck et al. (2023a,b) identified two classical YLAs, ϵ Cha and η Cha, as members of Sco-Cen. These are the youngest (around 9 Myr) and least massive clusters in the LCC chain. Our study demonstrates that TWA, another well-known YLA, is also among the lowest-mass clusters of Sco-Cen. The common origin of ϵ Cha and TWA was previously suggested but the opposite vertical motion of the two clusters was questioned (Miret-Roig et al. 2018). In the formation scenario presented in this work, the peculiar motion of these young stars is a consequence of the momentum injected by the stellar feedback of the massive stars in Sco-Cen.

The origin of the β Pictoris moving group (β Pic) has also been related to Sco-Cen (see e.g., Mamajek & Feigelson 2001; Ortega et al. 2002; Makarov et al. 2005; Fernández et al. 2008; Miret-Roig et al. 2018). However, β Pic is older (20–25 Myr, see e.g., Miret-Roig et al. 2024 and references therein) than the massive clusters in Sco-Cen (~15 Myr) and unlikely to have formed as a result of its feedback. Tracing back in time the center of β Pic (using the positions and motions from Miret-Roig et al. 2020) we found that it has crossed Sco-Cen in the past 10-15 Myr. It was closest at only 6 pc from the center of the Libra South cluster about 12 Myr ago. It also passed very close, about 30 pc, to the largest clusters in Sco-Cen (σ Cen and ν Cen) 15 Myr ago. β Pic and Sco-Cen share the origin as part of a large family of 82 clusters, the α Persei family (Swiggum et al. 2024). Other YLAs such as Carina, Columba, and Tucana-Horolgium have been suggested to share a common origin (Miret-Roig et al. 2018; Gagné et al. 2021; Kerr et al. 2022; Galli et al. 2023, Wagner in prep). They are older (30-45 Myr) than Sco-Cen and, similar to β Pic, did not originate from the feedback in this OB association. However, they are also part of the same large family of clusters, α Persei, where many hundreds of OB stars formed and thus could have formed by a similar feedback-driven mechanism.

YLAs were originally identified as low-mass associations in the solar neighborhood and are often studied independently from open clusters. Recent surveys of star clusters with *Gaia* have identified many structures that show a smooth transition between open clusters and associations (see e.g., Hunt & Reffert 2024; this was also suggested previously by other authors such as Bressert et al. 2010). Additionally, massive and low-mass clusters share common origins as part of the same cluster families (Swiggum et al. 2024). This indicates that there is no well-defined boundary between open clusters and associations, and YLAs result from the formation of low-mass clusters. Low-mass clusters must be a common product of star formation, hence they should be everywhere. However, they are harder to detect than their more massive peers, producing an observational bias in their frequency. This can be mitigated thanks to better astrometric and spectroscopic surveys and devoted algorithms (Gagné et al. 2018; Ratzenböck et al. 2023a; Hunt & Reffert 2023).

Several theories have been proposed to explain the origin of low-mass clusters. Some studies have related the formation of Sco-Cen and the YLAs to various processes, including the passage of spiral arms (Fernández et al. 2008; Quillen et al. 2020), the dissolution of open clusters (Gagné et al. 2021), and stellar feedback (Bouy & Alves 2015). This and recent studies show that ϵ Cha, η Cha, and TWA formed in the surroundings of massive star clusters (containing around 10^4 stars), driven by the stellar feedback of the OB stars at the center of Sco-Cen. This formation mechanism where low-mass clusters form at the ends of cluster chains, after the formation of massive clusters may be the dominant mechanism for low-mass cluster formation. If this scenario holds, we would expect low-mass clusters to be younger than their massive counterparts and exhibit distinctive kinematic signatures deviating from predictions based solely on the Galactic potential while they are younger than about 30 Myr. Establishing the origin of low-mass clusters is also important for planet formation studies as the presence of strong stellar feedback impacts the formation of planetary systems within those clusters (Forbes et al. 2021; Reiter & Parker 2022; Desch & Miret-Roig 2024). Therefore, planetary systems in massive and low-mass clusters might have different architectures. A detailed analysis of the demography, kinematics, and origin of young star clusters and a careful characterization of their environments are crucial to confirm this formation scenario.

5. Conclusions

Our main result is that the well-known TW Hydrae Association (TWA) is a cluster chain of sequential star formation that is part of Sco-Cen. By analyzing the three-dimensional spatial distribution of TWA, we identified evidence of substructure and tentatively divided it into two subclusters: TWA-a and TWA-b.

TWA-a has an age of 9^{+2}_{-1} Myr and is relatively close to the massive cluster σ Cen, at a distance of 48 pc. It is moving away from σ Cen at a speed of 3.9 ± 1.1 km s⁻¹. TWA-b is younger, with an age of 6^{+2}_{-1} Myr, located further from σ Cen at 77 pc, and moving away at a higher speed of 6.2 ± 1.0 km s⁻¹. This pattern of three-dimensional positions, velocities, and ages indicates an acceleration along TWA of 0.68 ± 0.06 km s⁻¹ Myr⁻¹. The most likely cause of this acceleration is the momentum injected into the parent gas by approximately 15 supernovae that exploded in Sco-Cen over the past 13 Myr (Breitschwerdt et al. 2016; Zucker et al. 2022).

The formation of TWA aligns well with recent star formation scenarios proposed for Sco-Cen, where star formation began in the inner regions and propagated outward, driven by feedback from massive stars (e.g., Bouy & Alves 2015; Krause et al. 2018; Ratzenböck et al. 2023b). Three other cluster chains–Corona Australis (CrA), Lower Centaurus-Crux (LCC), and Upper Scorpius (USC)–have recently been discovered in Sco-Cen, exhibiting similar spatial, temporal, kinematic, and mass gradients to those of TWA (Ratzenböck et al. 2023b; Posch et al. 2023, 2025). We propose that the current shape of Sco-Cen was partially inherited from the distribution of the parent cloud complex, as star formation propagated only in regions with high gas density. However, it remains unclear whether these cluster chains were formed from distinct episodes or a continuous process.

We connect the formation of TWA and Sco-Cen to other YLAs, showing that similar to ϵ Cha and η Cha, TWA formed as a result of stellar feedback from massive stars in Sco-Cen. In contrast, other YLAs such as β Pictoris, Carina, Columba, and Tucana-Horologium are older and did not form this way. Nevertheless, they all share a common origin as part of the α Persei cluster family (Swiggum et al. 2024), where many hundreds of OB stars formed and a similar feedback-driven mechanism could have been possible.

We suggest that YLAs are common products of star formation but are particularly difficult to detect due to their low density. Moreover, we speculate that similar to Sco-Cen, most low-mass clusters might form at the ends of cluster chains through stellar feedback, with significant implications for planet formation (Forbes et al. 2021; Reiter & Parker 2022; Desch & Miret-Roig 2024). Star clusters younger than about 30 Myr are excellent targets for investigating star formation processes, as their initial conditions still dominate their evolution before gravitational effects begin to erase these signatures.

A revision of the cluster census in the solar neighborhood, utilizing the latest *Gaia* data releases with algorithms specifically designed to handle high projection effects (e.g., SigMA; Ratzenböck et al. 2023a), is essential for testing star formation theories. Upcoming large spectroscopic surveys such as WEAVE, 4MOST, and SDSS will enhance this census and provide high-quality radial velocities complementary to *Gaia*, which are crucial for precise kinematic studies and for investigating the origin and history of the local Galaxy.

Data availability

3D interactive Fig. 1 is available at https://www.aanda.org

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A60, page 10 of 15

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Appendix A: Radial velocities

We queried the ESO, CFHT, and NOIRLab archives for spectra of the stars in our initial list of candidate members from the literature (see Table A.1). We analyzed 842 spectra from 24 different stars. Many of these spectra were obtained in exoplanet search programs which is why few stars accumulate a large number of spectra. We downloaded the already reduced spectra from the archives and we determined the radial velocities with the software iSpec⁴ (Blanco-Cuaresma et al. 2014) with the same procedure as described in Miret-Roig et al. (2020); Galli et al. (2023, 2024). The 24 radial velocities determined in this study are included in Table A.2 (column RV_{this work}). Nine sources show a variable radial velocity through different epochs or a noisy cross-correlation function and are flagged as binary candidates. In Figure A.1, we compare the radial velocities determined in this work with the Gaia DR3 catalog and the literature compilation from Luhman (2023). The measurements are consistent, with our sample being more precise than Gaia and more homogeneous than the literature compilation.

We combined the 24 radial velocities determined in this work with the 39 radial velocities from Gaia DR3 and the 57 from the literature compilation. We considered only the radial velocities with an error smaller than 2 km/s and excluded all known binary candidates. This reduced the sample to 14 radial velocities from this work, 9 from Gaia DR3, and 22 from the heterogeneous compilation. The 2 km/s threshold is a compromise between having measurements with a precision comparable to the velocity dispersion of TWA and having sufficient stars in the sample. To determine the final radial velocity uncertainties, we took the quadratic sum of the standard deviation and the mean error of the different measurements for the same star. We refer to this final 6D high-quality sample as TWA-6D-HQ, which contains 29 stars with a median error of 0.6 km/s. Figure A.2 shows the radial velocity distribution of the TWA-6D-HQ sample. The minimum and maximum radial velocities are 5.73 ± 0.14 km/s and 17.5 ± 0.6 km/s, respectively.

Appendix B: Sco-Cen_{>15Myr} reference sample

Figure B.1 shows the spatial distribution of TWA members together with the complete Sco-Cen census from Ratzenböck et al. (2023a,b). The two reference samples defined in Sect. 2 are indicated: σ Cen (cross marker) and Sco-Cen_{>15Myr} (diamond marker). Visually the σ Cen reference sample seems to be better aligned with the direction of TWA elongation. This cluster is the most likely progenitor of the TWA cluster chain and we took it as a reference for the analysis presented in this study. The reference sample Sco-Cen_{>15Myr} is located in a direction not too different from the TWA elongation but the alignment is poorer if we also consider σ Cen as part of the TWA chain. As we discuss in Sect. 4, even if we take σ Cen as the main progenitor of the TWA chain, the stellar feedback from all the massive stars (older than 15 Myr) likely impacted the formation of the younger members of the cluster chains, including TWA.

Appendix C: Age complilation

Table C.1 includes a literature compilation of the different ages determined for TWA, sorted by the methodology used to determine the age, namely, isochrone fitting and kinematics. We



Fig. A.1: Comparison of the radial velocities derived in this work with the Gaia DR3 catalog and the literature compilation from Luhman (2023). The open markers are binary candidates or measurements with an error larger than 2 km/s and thus, excluded from our high-quality sample. The dashed gray line indicates a one-to-one correlation between the radial velocity measurements in the different datasets.



Fig. A.2: Radial velocity distribution of the 29 stars in the high-quality sample (TWA-6D-HQ).

also report two references that attempted to measure dynamical traceback ages for TWA in the past (Donaldson et al. 2016; Miret-Roig et al. 2018) but whose ages were inconclusive. These uncertainties highlight the importance of revisiting the dynamical traceback age in future studies, with more precise radial velocity data and a more complete membership census.

⁴ https://www.blancocuaresma.com/s/iSpec

Miret-Roig, N., et al.: A&A, 694, A60 (2025)

Spectrograph	R	$\Delta\lambda$ (nm)	# Spectra	Program ID
				072.C-0374, 072.C-0393, 072.A-9012, 073.C-0355, 074.A-9020,
			338	074.A-9018, 074.A-9021, 076.A-9013, 077.C-0573, 077.D-0324,
				077.C-0138, 078.A-9059, 078.A-9060, 079.A-9006, 079.A-9009,
				079.A-9007, 079.A-9017, 080.A-9021, 081.A-9005, 081.A-9023,
ESO/FEROS	48 000	350–920		082.A-9011, 082.C-0592, 083.A-9004, 083.A-9017, 084.A-9004,
				085.A-9027, 086.A-9006, 086.A-9012, 087.A-9029, 089.A-9007,
				090.C-0200, 090.A-9013, 092.A-9007, 092.A-9029, 093.A-9029,
				093.A-9006, 094.A-9012, 099.A-9029, 099.A-9005, 099.A-9010,
				099.A-9008, 0101.A-9012, 0102.A-9008
				074.C-0037, 075.C-0202, 076.C-0010, 077.C-0012, 60.A-9036,
ESO/HARPS	115 000	378–691	102	079.C-0046, 079.C-0463, 080.C-0712, 080.D-0151, 081.C-0779,
				082.C-0390, 082.C-0427, 087.C-0012, 094.C-0946
ESOLIVES	40.000	300-1 100	57	65.I-0404, 68.C-0548, 082.C-0218, 089.C-0299, 089.C-0207,
E30/UVE3	49000			093.C-0343, 097.C-0979, 099.C-0078, 106.20Z8
CEUT/ECD. DO. C	60,000	370-1 050	500	08AF11, 08AH40, 10AP11, 12AP12, 14AP18, 15AS06, 15BE97,
CFH1/ESPaDOIIS	08 000			16AP18, 17AF95
NOIRLab/CHIRON	30 000	410-870	1	621

Table A 1.	Summary o	of the arc	vhival spec	rtra analyzeo	1 in this study
14010 1 1.1.	Summary	f the are	m vai spec	and under 200	a m uno biady.

Table A.2: Members of the TWA chain.	
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Designation	Cluster	RV this work	RVHO	X	Y	Ζ	U	V	W
2 congration	Cruster	(km/s)	(km/s)	(\mathbf{pc})	(nc)	(nc)	(km/s)	(km/s)	(km/s)
Gaia DR3 6133420114251217664	TWA-a	(1111,0)	(1112, 5)	$\frac{(p^2)}{42.87\pm0.23}$	-73 58+0 39	$\frac{(p^2)}{2845+015}$	(1111,5)	(1111, 5)	(1111/5)
Gaia DR3 613213/20082/0861//	TWA_2	8 3+0 8	8 8+0 9	30.00 ± 0.52	-67.70 ± 0.00	20.15 ± 0.15 24.12 ± 0.32	-10.71 ± 0.48	$-18/11\pm0.77$	-1.66 ± 0.20
Caia DR2 6122672020722817024	TWA-a	0.3±0.0	0.0±0.9	39.00 ± 0.32	-07.79 ± 0.90	24.12 ± 0.32	-10.71 ± 0.46	-10.41 ± 0.77	-4.00±0.29
Cala DR3 0132072029732017024	TWA-a			41.10 ± 1.14	-00.30 ± 1.04	23.93 ± 0.72			
Gala DK3 0132140982808270970	I WA-a			37.03 ± 0.07	-00.95 ± 0.15	23.12 ± 0.04			
Gaia DK3 6143632653128880896	I WA-a			35.0/±0.08	-69.23±0.16	23.73±0.06			
Gaia DR3 6132134304124539264	TWA-a			37.40±0.42	-65.00 ± 0.73	23.13±0.26			
Gaia DR3 534816512/505382400	TWA-a			27.13 ± 0.06	-75.28 ± 0.17	10.94 ± 0.02			
Gaia DR3 6145304323118631680	TWA-a			35.78 ± 0.05	-64.85 ± 0.09	25.01 ± 0.04			
Gaia DR3 6145303429765430784	TWA-a			35.72 ± 0.07	-64.74 ± 0.14	24.92 ± 0.05			
Gaia DR3 6152893526035165312	TWA-a			40.50 ± 1.18	-64.48±1.87	34.84 ± 1.01			
Gaia DR3 3459725624422311424	TWA-a			29.18±0.43	-69.41 ± 1.01	32.86 ± 0.48			
Gaia DR3 6179256348830614784	TWA-a			44.22 ± 0.37	-59.96±0.51	40.10 ± 0.34			
Gaia DR3 5378040370245563008	TWA-a			27.48 ± 0.19	-63.50 ± 0.43	20.81 ± 0.14			
Gaia DR3 5399990638128330752	TWA-a			17.88 ± 0.48	-93.47 ± 2.50	36.69 ± 0.98			
Gaia DR3 6151330196594603648	TWA-a			30.43 ± 0.09	-63.42 ± 0.19	32.53 ± 0.10			
Gaia DR3 6114656192408518784	TWA-a			5378 ± 0.09	-4994+008	3121+0.05			
Gaia DR3 6147119548096085376	TW_{Δ_2}			32.48 ± 0.07	-56.99 ± 0.13	27.75 ± 0.06			
Gaia DP3 61/7117727020871360	TWA a			32.40 ± 0.07 32.32 ± 0.11	56.62 ± 0.10	27.75 ± 0.00			
Caia DR2 61471177202725170176	TWA-a			32.32 ± 0.11	-30.02 ± 0.19	27.53 ± 0.09			
C_{aia} DD2 2462205522652804226	TWA-a	106.00	11.1 . 0.0	32.27 ± 0.03	-30.34 ± 0.09	27.31 ± 0.04	10.04 + 0.27	10 52 10 76	6.04 + 0.25
Gala DK3 5405595525052894550	I WA-a	10.0 ± 0.9	11.1 ± 0.9	23.10 ± 0.02	-00.08 ± 0.07	30.77 ± 0.03	-10.94 ± 0.27	-19.32 ± 0.70	-0.04 ± 0.33
Gaia DK3 3463395519358168064	I WA-a	12.0 ± 0.2	12.3 ± 0.5	23.05±0.05	-65./8±0.13	30.62±0.06	-12.14 ± 0.15	-20.82 ± 0.42	-5.11 ± 0.20
Gaia DR3 346632/9898856501/6	TWA-a		10.5 ± 0.4	26.90 ± 0.13	-65.85 ± 0.31	40.14 ± 0.19	-9.14 ± 0.15	-19.99 ± 0.34	-5.36 ± 0.21
Gaia DR3 5416221633076680320	TWA-a	17.1 ± 0.5	17.5 ± 0.6	9.50 ± 0.01	-85.84 ± 0.13	19.14 ± 0.03	-13.03 ± 0.07	-20.97 ± 0.60	-6.72 ± 0.13
Gaia DR3 5401389770971149568	TWA-a			12.20 ± 0.10	-86.56 ± 0.72	35.45 ± 0.29			
Gaia DR3 6183591791897683584	TWA-a			36.08 ± 0.07	-51.87±0.10	38.10 ± 0.07			
Gaia DR3 3459492631038236416	TWA-a			24.30 ± 1.52	-55.28 ± 3.47	25.74 ± 1.62			
Gaia DR3 6147044433411060224	TWA-a		6.3 ± 0.9	29.39±0.05	-50.91±0.08	24.26 ± 0.04	-11.21 ± 0.42	-17.43±0.72	-6.48 ± 0.34
Gaia DR3 3465944500845668224	TWA-a			22.51 ± 0.12	-58.53 ± 0.31	32.78±0.17			
Gaia DR3 3459372646830687104	TWA-a			24.09 ± 0.18	-54.66 ± 0.41	24.79±0.19			
Gaia DR3 5397574190745629312	TWA-a	12.8 ± 0.2	12.8 ± 0.8	16.73 ± 0.03	-61.39 ± 0.09	25.11 ± 0.04	-11.90 ± 0.21	-20.00 ± 0.76	-5.99 ± 0.31
Gaia DR3 5396105586807802880	TWA-a		12.5 ± 0.1	15.04 ± 0.02	-59.26 ± 0.07	23.24 ± 0.03	-12.16 ± 0.02	-19.31 ± 0.05	-6.18 ± 0.02
Gaia DR3 3468438639892079360	TWA-a			25.51 ± 0.17	-49.98 ± 0.32	31.51 ± 0.20			
Gaia DR3 6146107993101452160	TWA-a	70+02	67+06	2652+004	-4659+007	20.75 ± 0.03	-1121+026	-1741 + 045	-629+020
Gaia DR3 5414158429569765632	TW_{Δ_2}	1.0±0.2	15.8 ± 1.1	756 ± 0.01	-66.69 ± 0.07	12.18 ± 0.02	-13.26 ± 0.12	-19.08 ± 1.03	-754+019
Gaia DR3 3465989374664029184	TW_{Δ_2}		60+18	20.09 ± 0.01	-5130 ± 0.09	29.66 ± 0.02	-12.66 ± 0.12	-16.24 ± 1.03	-6.81 ± 0.88
Gaia DR3 6150861508/18/1303856	TWA_{-2}	7/1+1/2	6.0 ± 1.0	20.09 ± 0.04 21 20 ± 0.03	-31.30 ± 0.07	20.55 ± 0.03	-12.00 ± 0.57 -12.13 ± 0.66	-16.24 ± 1.32	-6.67 ± 0.63
Gaia DR2 5457250082514582552	TWA-a	7.∓±1.2	0.7±1.7	21.29 ± 0.03	-44.70 ± 0.00	20.33 ± 0.03	-12.15±0.00	-10.95± 1.56	-0.07±0.05
Gaia DR3 5457259085514585552 Gaia DR2 5200220742767211776	TWA-a	11.2 ± 0.4	11 4 10 4	2.39 ± 0.02	-74.33 ± 0.31	37.84 ± 0.20	12 48 10 08	18 60 10 27	6 24 + 0.17
Caia DR3 5399220743707211770	TWA-a	11.2 ± 0.4	11.4 ± 0.4	11.90 ± 0.01	-33.12 ± 0.03	24.04 ± 0.02	-12.40 ± 0.00	-10.00 ± 0.37	-0.24 ± 0.17
Gala DR3 3399220743707211204	TWA-a	12.3±1.0	12.5±0.0	11.90 ± 0.01	-33.10 ± 0.00	24.85 ± 0.05	-12.43 ± 0.12	-19.27 ± 0.33	-5.59 ± 0.25
Gaia DK3 3493814268/51183/44	I WA-a			$1/.01\pm0.08$	-58.00 ± 0.27	48.99±0.22			
Gaia DK3 3466308095597260032	I WA-a	10 5 . 0 4	10.5.0.0	18.86±0.10	-45.88 ± 0.23	27.70±0.14	12.04.0.02	10 46 0 10	()() 0 00
Gaia DR3 5401/95662560500352	TWA-a	12.5 ± 0.4	12.5 ± 0.2	8.36±0.01	-54./4±0.05	23.45 ± 0.02	-13.04 ± 0.03	-18.46 ± 0.18	-6.36 ± 0.08
Gaia DR3 54018226693148/4240	I WA-a			8.19±0.06	-53.85 ± 0.42	23.30±0.18			
Gaia DR3 54/0330146463996032	TWA-a			$1.3/\pm0.01$	-91.15 ± 0.34	52.64±0.20			
Gaia DR3 5398663566250727680	TWA-a			11.69 ± 0.20	-44.03 ± 0.77	21.69 ± 0.38			
Gaia DR3 5398663566249861120	TWA-b			11.51 ± 0.03	-43.35 ± 0.12	21.35 ± 0.06			
Gaia DR3 3532027383058513664	TWA-b		9.3 ± 0.5	5.68 ± 0.02	-47.16±0.19	26.92 ± 0.11	-11.68 ± 0.08	-16.05 ± 0.41	-6.80 ± 0.24
Gaia DR3 5467714064704570112	TWA-b		12.4 ± 0.3	-1.35 ± 0.00	-55.57±0.12	25.55 ± 0.06	-13.89 ± 0.03	-16.70±0.27	-7.37±0.13
Gaia DR3 3478940625208241920	TWA-b		5.8 ± 0.7	11.10 ± 0.01	-41.00 ± 0.05	24.24 ± 0.03	-13.65 ± 0.16	-15.08 ± 0.59	-7.56±0.35
Gaia DR3 3478519134297202560	TWA-b			11.10 ± 0.12	-39.53 ± 0.43	22.27 ± 0.24			
Gaia DR3 3481965141177021568	TWA-b		12.3 ± 1.5	9.51 ± 0.02	-40.16±0.08	23.36±0.05	-12.52 ± 0.30	-20.17±1.27	-4.61±0.74
Gaia DR3 3481965995873045888	TWA-b			9.35 ± 0.09	-39.52 ± 0.40	23.01±0.23			
Gaia DR3 3532218595001808768	TWA-b			5.09 ± 0.02	-42.05 ± 0.18	25.30 ± 0.11			
Gaia DR3 5460240959050125568	TWA-b		14.1 ± 0.8	-2.35 ± 0.01	-49.89 ± 0.17	18.40 ± 0.06	-14.80 ± 0.06	-17.50 ± 0.76	-8.60 ± 0.28
Gaia DR3 5412403269717562240	TWA-b		15.7 ± 1.5	1.60 ± 0.00	-46.32 ± 0.07	5.29 ± 0.01	-13.94 ± 0.06	-17.17 ± 1.51	-7.80 ± 0.17
Gaia DR3 3534414594600352896	TWA-h		57+01	6.05 ± 0.09	-40.97 ± 0.58	2773+040	-12.83 ± 0.19	-1647+019	-1124+020
Gaia DR3 5460240959047928832	TWA-h		151+17	-2.32 ± 0.01	-4925+017	18 16+0.06	-13 78+0.09	-1757+155	-5 59+0 57
Gaia DR3 5452498541764280832	TWAL	11 9+0 0	11 3+0 0	5.62 ± 0.01	-40 23+0 38	2145+0.00	-13.07 ± 0.09	-1721 + 078	-4.65 ± 0.07
Gaia DR3 3485098646237003136	TWA_h	86+04	8 6+0 2	8 07+0 01	-3802 ± 0.06	25.03 ± 0.04	-1353+0.05	-16.94 ± 0.18	-5.48 ± 0.12
Gaia DR3 3/25/002676257005150	TWAL	83 ± 0.7	8 5±0.2	807 ± 0.01	_37 80±0.00	23.03 ± 0.04 24.88 ± 0.02	-13.06 ± 0.05	-17.06 ± 0.24	-6.00 ± 0.12
Gaia DR3 3567370101/21721200	TWA h	0.3±0.2	0.JE0.J	10.51 ± 0.01	-36.02 ± 0.03	27.00 ± 0.03 36 60 ± 0.03	-13.00±0.03	-17.00±0.24	-0.00±0.10
Gaia DR3 530(5/7121431/51520 Gaia DD3 5306079667757576064	TWA L		0.0-0.6	70.31 ± 0.02	-30.92 ± 0.00	13.30 ± 0.00	11.08 + 0.12	16 31 + 0 57	761-022
Gaia DR3 53707/000/15/5/0004 Gaia DP3 5306079667750604000	TWA L		9.7±0.0	6.00 ± 0.02	-33.92 ± 0.09	13.37±0.03	-11.70±0.12	-10.51±0.57	-7.01±0.23
Gaia DR3 33909/000//39090000 Gaia DD2 2524/14500202007222	TWA-D			0.99 ± 0.01 5 11 ± 0.09	-33.03 ± 0.03	13.30 ± 0.02			
Gaia DR3 333441439030380/232	TWA-D		82.02	3.11 ± 0.08 1.42 + 0.00	-34.01 ± 0.37	23.42 ± 0.38	14.25 + 0.02	14.06 + 0.17	7 42 - 0 11
Gaia DR3 33309882/0442/90800	TWA-D	12.0 - 0.2	0.2 ± 0.2	1.43 ± 0.00	-30.99 ± 0.03	23.40 ± 0.03	-14.23 ± 0.02	$-14.90\pm0.1/$	-7.43 ± 0.11
Gala DK5 5444/51/95151480320	I WA-b	12.0±0.3	12.2±0.3	2.39±0.00	-31.34±0.03	12.74±0.01	-13.01 ± 0.03	-17.15±0.30	-1.01 ± 0.12

Notes. Columns indicate (1) Gaia DR3 designation, (2) cluster membership, (3) radial velocity determined in this work from archival spectra, (4) radial velocity of the TWA-6D-HQ sample, combining the measurements from this work, Gaia DR3 and a literature compilation, (5–7) 3D heliocentric positions (*XYZ*) and (8–10) velocities (*UVW*).



Fig. B.1: Same as Fig. 2, but including all stars in Sco-Cen (light gray dots) and the center of the Sco-Cen _{>15Myr} reference sample (black diamond).

Miret-Roig, N.,	et al.: A&A	, 694, A60	(2025)
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Table C.1: Literature age estimates for TW Hydrae.

Reference	Age	Method
Makarov & Fabricius (2001)	8.3 Myr	Expansion
Makarov et al. (2005)	4.7 ± 0.6 Myr	Dynamical traceback
Mamajek (2005)	> 10.4 Myr	Expansion
de la Reza et al. (2006)	8.3 ± 0.8 Myr	Dynamical traceback
Ducourant et al. (2014)	$7.5 \pm 0.7 \text{ Myr}$	Dynamical traceback
Donaldson et al. (2016)	Inconclusive	Dynamical traceback
Miret-Roig et al. (2018)	Inconclusive	Dynamical traceback
Luhman (2023)	9.6 ^{+0.9} _{-0.8} Myr	Expansion
Olivares et al. in prep.	10.3 ± 1.1 Myr	Expansion
Soderblom et al. (1998)	10^{+10}_{-5} Myr	Isochrone (Siess et al. 1997 models)
Webb et al. (1999)	~ 10 Myr	Isochrone (D'Antona & Mazzitelli 1997 models)
Barrado Y Navascués (2006)	10^{+10} Myr	Isochrone (Baraffe et al. 1998 models)
Weinberger et al. (2013)	~ 10 Myr	Isochrone (Baraffe et al. 1998 models)
Herczeg & Hillenbrand (2015)	2.7 ± 0.4 Myr	Isochrone (D'Antona & Mazzitelli 1997 models)
Herczeg & Hillenbrand (2015)	9.0 ± 1.5 Myr	Isochrone (Pisa models, Tognelli et al. 2011)
Herczeg & Hillenbrand (2015)	7.9 ± 1.4 Myr	Isochrone (Feiden 2016 models)
Herczeg & Hillenbrand (2015)	8.1 ± 1.4 Myr	Isochrone (BHAC15 models, Baraffe et al. 2015)
Bell et al. (2015)	7^{+2}_{-1} Myr	Isochrone (Dartmouth models, Dotter et al. 2008)
Bell et al. (2015)	9 ± 1 Myr	Isochrone (Pisa models, Tognelli et al. 2011)
Bell et al. (2015)	13 ± 1 Myr	Isochrone (Parsec models, Bressan et al. 2012)
Bell et al. (2015)	10 ± 1 Myr	Isochrone (BHAC15 models, Baraffe et al. 2015)
Donaldson et al. (2016)	7.9 ± 1.0 Myr	Isochrone (BHAC15 models, Baraffe et al. 2015)
Luhman (2023)	$11.4^{+1.3}_{-1.2}$ Myr	Isochrone (empirical, calibrated with Lithium depletion boundary ages)
This work –TWA-a	9^{+2}_{-1} Myr	Isochrone (Parsec models)
This work –TWA-b	6^{+2}_{-1} Myr	Isochrone (Parsec models)