New nearby white dwarfs from Gaia DR1 TGAS and UCAC5/URAT*

R.-D. Scholz¹, H. Meusinger²,³, and H. Jahreiβ⁴

¹ Leibniz-Institut für Astrophysik Potsdam, An der Sternwarte 16, 14482 Potsdam, Germany
e-mail: rdscholz@aip.de
² Thüringer Landessternwarte Tautenburg, Sternwarte 5, 07778 Tautenburg, Germany
e-mail: meus@tls-tautenburg.de
³ University Leipzig, Faculty of Physics and Geosciences, Linnestr. 5, 04103 Leipzig, Germany
e-mail: hartmut@ari.uni-heidelberg.de
⁴ Zentrum für Astronomie der Universität Heidelberg, Astronomisches Rechen-Institut, Mönchhofstraße 12-14, 69120 Heidelberg, Germany

Received 10 August 2017 / Accepted 28 November 2017

ABSTRACT

Aims. Using an accurate Tycho-Gaia Astrometric Solution (TGAS) 25 pc sample that is nearly complete for GK stars and selecting common proper motion (CPM) candidates from the 5th United States Naval Observatory CCD Astrograph Catalog (UCAC5), we search for new white dwarf (WD) companions around nearby stars with relatively small proper motions.

Methods. To investigate known CPM systems in TGAS and to select CPM candidates in TGAS+UCAC5, we took into account the expected effect of orbital motion on the proper motion and proper motion catalogue errors. Colour-magnitude diagrams (CMDs) M_J/J – K_s and M_G/G – J were used to verify CPM candidates from UCAC5. Assuming their common distance with a given TGAS star, we searched for candidates that occupied similar regions in the CMDs as the few known nearby WDs (four in TGAS) and WD companions (three in TGAS+UCAC5). The CPM candidates with colours and absolute magnitudes corresponding neither to the main sequence nor to the WD sequence were considered as doubtful or subdwarf candidates.

Results. With a minimum proper motion of 60 mas yr⁻¹, we selected three WD companion candidates; two of which are also confirmed by their significant parallaxes measured in URAT data, whereas the third may also be a chance alignment of a distant halo star with a nearby TGAS star that has an angular separation of about 465 arcsec. One additional nearby WD candidate was found from its URAT parallax and GJK photometry. With HD 166435 B orbiting a well-known G1 star at ≈24.6 pc with a projected physical separation of ≈700 AU, we discovered one of the hottest WDs, classified by us as DA2.0 ± 0.3, in the solar neighbourhood. We also found TYC 3980-1081-1 B, a strong cool WD companion candidate around a recently identified new solar neighbour with a TGAS parallax corresponding to a distance of ≈8.3 pc and our photometric classification as ≈M2 dwarf. This raises the question of whether previous assumptions on the completeness of the WD sample to a distance of 13 pc were correct.

Key words. astrometry – parallaxes – proper motions – binaries: general – white dwarfs – solar neighborhood

1. Introduction

Most of the currently known nearby (d < 25 pc) stars were first suspected as solar neighbours because of their high proper motions. The lower limit of high proper motion catalogues has decreased with time, from 500 mas yr⁻¹ in the Luyten Half Second (LHS; Luyten 1998) and 180 mas yr⁻¹ in the New Luyten Two Tens (NLTT; Luyten 1995) catalogues, to 40 mas yr⁻¹ in the publicly not yet available SUPERBLINK catalogue (Lépine 2017). Only 15% of about 3300 stars within 25 pc in the catalogue of nearby stars (CNS; Glaeser & Jahreiβ 1995) have proper motions smaller than 180 mas yr⁻¹ and for only 2% they lie below 40 mas yr⁻¹. Meanwhile, the 25 pc sample of the REsearch Consortium On Nearby Stars (RECONS)¹ has been improved with respect to the accuracy of the measured trigonometric parallaxes and contains about 4000 objects in 3000 systems (Henry & Jao 2015). While the 25 pc census of AFGK-type stars had already been completed by the HIPPARCOS (ESA 1997) mission that surveyed all these bright stars for their trigonometric parallaxes independent of their proper motions and colours, the fainter white dwarfs (WDs) and M-type dwarfs had to be preselected as targets for time-consuming ground-based parallax programmes by their colours and/or proper motions. According to the RECONS, there was an increase of 11% for WDs and 25% for M dwarfs if one considers the immediate solar neighbourhood (the 10 pc sample) in 2012 compared to its status in 2000.

A new unbiased survey that will help to finally complete the stellar, and also partly the substellar, census of the solar neighbourhood independent of proper motion limits is now being carried out by the Gaia mission (Gaia Collaboration et al. 2016b). A first relatively small, still incomplete, and magnitude-limited (V < 11.5) subset of very accurate parallaxes was provided with the about two million stars in the Tycho-Gaia Astrometric Solution (TGAS; Lindegren et al. 2016). The TGAS catalogue

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¹ http://www.recons.org/
is expected to include the majority of the GK-type stars within 25 pc, whereas parallaxes of the brighter AF-type solar neighbours and the fainter nearby WDs and the most frequent solar companions, M-type stars, as well as most ML- and some T-type brown dwarfs (see Smart et al. 2017) will only be provided in later Gaia data releases. The largest intermediate parallax survey between HIPPARCOS and Gaia was provided by Finch & Zacharias (2016b), who used data from the first U.S. Naval Observatory Robotic Astrometric Telescope Catalog (URAT1; Zacharias et al. 2015). The full URAT Parallax Catalog (UPC; Finch & Zacharias 2016a) contains more than 112 000 stars north of δ = −13° available from Finch & Zacharias (2016c) with significant parallax measurements, including 53 500 stars, for which no previous parallaxes were available. We note that the UPC is not biased towards high proper motion objects.

The positions of all stars published in the first Gaia data release (Gaia DR1; Gaia Collaboration et al. 2016a; Lindegren et al. 2016) were used to improve the proper motion measurements of fainter stars in the 5th United States Naval Observatory CCD Astrograph Catalog (UCAC5; Zacharias et al. 2017). The UCAC5 proper motions are of similar accuracy as those of TGAS (1–2 mas yr\(^{-1}\)) for stars with R magnitudes between 11 and 15. Out of all 107 million UCAC5 stars, 25 million have proper motion errors smaller than 2 mas yr\(^{-1}\). Therefore, we can search among the typically fainter UCAC5 stars for objects that have a common proper motion (CPM) with a TGAS star. The CPM companions found in UCAC5 can then be assumed to lie at the same distances as their primary stars from TGAS, respectively. The CPM method has usually been applied to high proper motion stars, for which the errors were much smaller than the proper motion values (e.g. Luyten 1997; Li et al. 2014; Lépine 2011). Very wide binaries with projected physical separations of \(\geq 1\) pc were already analysed in TGAS data alone by Oh et al. (2017) and Andrews et al. (2017).

Interestingly, apparent members of open clusters, which lie at distances from the Sun (\(S\) cap) between 45 pc and 450 pc, were found at very large separations (up to 15 pc) from their cluster centres (Gaia Collaboration et al. 2017), not only by their CPM status but also according to their common parallaxes in TGAS.

Within the traditional CNS horizon of 25 pc from the Sun, Tremblay et al. (2017) have found and analysed only four WDs directly observed in TGAS. In addition they identified nine such nearby TGAS stars, which have wide WD companions that were too faint to be included in TGAS. Compared to the total number of more than 180 currently known WDs with accurate parallaxes within 25 pc (Subasavage et al. 2017)\(^2\), the TGAS numbers of directly and indirectly observed WDs are very small. Holberg et al. (2016) have listed 232 WDs with trigonometric parallaxes or spectroscopic distance estimates in their 25 pc sample. Despite the obvious incompleteness of the TGAS 25 pc sample with respect to low-mass stars and WDs, most of which are fainter than the TGAS magnitude limit, and although the UCAC5 does not go deep enough to detect the coolest WDs at about 25 pc either, we aim at a CPM search for unknown nearby WD companions using the very accurate proper motions in both TGAS and UCAC5. In particular, we want to extend the CPM method to those of the known nearest stars that exhibit relatively small proper motions.

\(^2\) According to http://www.denseproject.com/25pc/ more than 20% of these nearby WDs are components of binary or multiple systems.

2. Common proper motion of nearby wide binaries

2.1. The TGAS 25 pc sample

We have selected 973 stars from TGAS whose parallaxes are larger than 40 mas and cross-identified this TGAS 25 pc sample with the Two Micron All Sky Survey (2MASS; Skrutskie et al. 2006) after converting the TGAS coordinates with epoch 2015 to epoch 2000 taking into account the TGAS proper motions and using TopCat (Taylor 2005). A search radius of 4 arcsec was used as the 2MASS coordinates are given for various epochs between 1997 and 2001. Applying the TGAS proper motions to the 2MASS positions, we then converted the latter to the epoch 2000 as well. The resulting angular distances between the epoch 2000 positions from both catalogues were small (median of 0.12 arcsec, where only a few values are above 0.5 arcsec and a maximum of 1.1 arcsec). All 973 stars were matched and provided with 2MASS \(JHK_s\) magnitudes (except for one star lacking the \(K_s\) magnitude). However, only 871 out of the 973 stars have high-quality 2MASS photometry (quality flags “AAA”).

The number of TGAS stars within 25 pc corresponds to only a quarter of the already mentioned RECONS 25 pc sample. However, all TGAS stars within 25 pc have trigonometric parallax errors of less than 1 mas (for \(\geq 75\%\) the errors are even \(< 0.5\) mas), whereas the corresponding RECONS parallaxes were required to have errors of less than 10 mas. Hence the TGAS 25 pc sample is highly incomplete but very accurate with respect to its astrometric measurements. The proper motion errors for TGAS stars within 25 pc (\(\approx 88\%\) of them are HIPPARCOS stars) are also much smaller than for other TGAS stars (for \(\approx 80\%\) the errors are \(< 0.2\) mas yr\(^{-1}\)).

2.2. Effect of wide orbital motion on proper motions

When we search for CPM objects to known nearby stars with accurately measured distances, we can estimate the expected influence of orbital motion on the proper motion difference between both components in a CPM pair. For simplicity we assumed (1) a circular orbit in the plane of the sky, (2) an orbital radius corresponding to the projected physical separation (in AU) that can be computed as the product of the angular separation between both components (in arcsec) and the assumed common distance (in pc), and (3) a total mass of the system of 1.5 solar masses. With these assumptions, and following Kepler’s third law, we can compute the orbital period and velocity and transform the latter to a proper motion, again using the known distance. This proper motion effect due to orbital motion, \(pmo\), is the expected maximum proper motion difference between the components of a nearby wide binary. This effect increases with smaller distances and separations. For a wide binary located at 25 pc from the Sun, separations of 3600 arcsec, 60 arcsec, and 6 arcsec lead to \(pmo\) of about 1 mas yr\(^{-1}\), 8 mas yr\(^{-1}\), and 25 mas yr\(^{-1}\), respectively. With equal separations, the corresponding \(pmo\) are already about 4 times larger at 10 pc and about 11 times larger at 5 pc, respectively.

Before we used \(pmo\) as a criterion for our CPM search in TGAS+UCAC5 data (see Sect. 3), we investigated the known CPM pairs in the TGAS 25 pc sample alone. Here we have the advantage that we can find physical pairs of stars from their common distance and small angular separation and then check the agreement in their proper motions. As the TGAS proper motion errors are typically very small (\(\leq 2\) mas yr\(^{-1}\)) and can be neglected, we used in this case the total proper
motion differences (Eq. (2)), which also leads to a clearer presentation in Fig. 1. However, in our Gaia+UCAC5 CPM search (Sect. 3), we applied the \( \frac{p_{\text{mo}}}{p_{\text{mu}}} \) criterion to the individual proper motion components (in RA and Dec) taking into account their typically larger (and sometimes rather different) UCAC5 errors.

We searched for wide binaries and multiple systems within the TGAS 25 pc sample with angular separations of up to several degrees. First, we allowed only for parallaxes that agree within their TGAS errors and found 18 CPM pairs with total proper motion differences smaller than \( p_{\text{mo}} \). Their angular separations ranged between 4–120 arcsec, their parallaxes between 45–114 mas, and their total proper motions between 130–900 mas yr\(^{-1}\). Allowing for two times larger proper motion differences, we found three more CPM pairs falling in the \( \frac{p_{\text{mo}}}{p_{\text{mu}}} \) range.

The third system, consisting of three TGAS sources, the wide binary GJ 282A/GJ 282B, and its much wider companion GJ 282C, has also a relatively small angular separation of 11 arcsec, a large total proper motion of about 1400 mas yr\(^{-1}\), and a large proper motion separation of about 3900 arcsec. This is much larger than the angular separations of all other wide binaries in the TGAS 25 pc sample. At a distance of about 14 pc it leads to a projected physical separation of about 56 000 AU, which is even larger than the about 10 000 AU between alpha CenAB and Proxima. The early-M dwarf GJ 282C was studied with respect to the K-type binary GJ 282A/GJ 282B and found to rank among the widest physical companions by Poveda et al. (2009). As our nearest neighbours, Proxima and alpha CenAB represent another prominent case of an extremely wide but bound system (Kervella et al. 2017); we added the corresponding values in Fig. 1. These objects are not in TGAS, so we used their data as listed in Kervella et al. (2017).

For GJ 282A/GJ 282B/GJ 282C we find ratios between the total proper motion differences and our estimated proper motion effect \( p_{\text{mo}} \) of about 6. These ratios exceed even those of alpha CenAB/Proxima. Such very large ratios may indicate that our simple assumptions for computing \( p_{\text{mo}} \) are not correct and/or that these systems are in the process of dynamical disintegration (Poveda et al. 2009).

### 2.3. The role of chance alignments

The larger the separation between the components of a wide binary candidate and the smaller their assumed CPM, the more likely is a chance alignment of unrelated objects. The proper motion errors also play an important role in the correct identification of CPM pairs, in particular if they are of the same order as the expected proper motion differences due to orbital motion (Sect. 2.2) and/or if they are not much smaller than the proper motion values. Lépine & Bongiorno (2007) investigated CPM companions of HIPPARCOS primaries in the LSPM-North catalogue and excluded chance alignments using the following empirical relation between the separation (\( \text{sep} \)), total proper motion difference (\( \text{dpm} \)), and total proper motion (\( \text{pm} \)):

\[
\frac{\text{sep} \times \text{dpm}}{(\text{pm}/\text{pm}_{\text{min}})^{\frac{3}{8}} < 1,}
\]

where \( \text{sep} \) was given in arcsec, whereas \( \text{dpm} \) and \( \text{pm} \) were in arcsec yr\(^{-1}\) here (but are in mas yr\(^{-1}\) throughout this paper), and \( \text{pm}_{\text{min}} \) was set to 0.15 arcsec yr\(^{-1}\), the lower proper motion limit of the LSPM-North catalogue. The total proper motion difference was computed as

\[
\text{dpm} = \sqrt{(\text{dpmRA}^2 + \text{dpmDec}^2)}.
\]

In our search for new WD companions (Sect. 3), we applied several criteria, starting with a lower proper motion limit, selecting a maximum angular separation (similar to the limit used by Lépine & Bongiorno 2007), taking into account the proper motion errors and the ratio of the proper motion differences to the \( \text{pmo} \) of each CPM candidate. In our final selection we considered only ratios below 1.5 such that we may have excluded some possible extremely wide binaries, similar to the cases described in Sect. 2.2. For an evaluation of our new WD CPM candidates and known WD CPM companions we checked, whether they fulfil the condition of Eq. (1).
3. Nearby TGAS/UCAC5 WD companion candidates

3.1. CPM search criteria

Our cross-matching of the TGAS 25 pc sample with the UCAC5 with a large search radius of 3600 arcsec yielded more than 7 million UCAC5 stars, on average about 7200 field stars per TGAS star. For each field star, we determined the pm effect that we expected if it were a wide binary companion of the TGAS star (see Sect. 2.2). When we consider the proper motion differences \(dpm\) (TGAS-UCAC5) of potential CPM pairs, we must also take into account the proper motion errors \(epm\) in the TGAS 25 pc sample and in UCAC5. Even after excluding UCAC5 stars with large proper motion errors, the TGAS proper motions were still about 10 times more accurate than those of the remaining UCAC5 stars. This is because the TGAS 25 pc sample consists mostly of HIPPARCOS stars, for which the TGAS was much more accurate than for \(Gaia\) stars. Only the 120 non-HIPPARCOS stars in the TGAS 25 pc sample show a similar peak in the proper motion error distribution as in UCAC5. However, the tail of their error distribution contains only about 10 stars with errors \(>3\) mas yr\(^{-1}\) with a maximum at about 6 mas yr\(^{-1}\). Therefore, we did not exclude potential CPM primaries based on TGAS proper motion errors. We selected candidate TGAS/UCAC5 CPM pairs with the following criteria:

- TGAS and UCAC5 total proper motion \(>60\) mas yr\(^{-1}\)
- TGAS-UCAC5 separation \(<1800\) arcsec
- \(\sqrt{epm_{\text{TGAS}}^2 + epm_{\text{UCAC5}}^2} < 6\) mas yr\(^{-1}\) (in RA and Dec components)
- \(|dpm| < 1.5 \times (pmo + epm_{\text{TGAS}} + epm_{\text{UCAC5}})\) (in RA and Dec)

When we tried to change the first three limits towards smaller total proper motions, larger separations, and larger UCAC5 proper motion errors, respectively, the number of CPM candidates increased. However, as their total proper motions were generally smaller, it happened that several CPM candidates were found for a given TGAS primary, in particular for very nearby TGAS stars. The additional candidates also showed unrealistic absolute magnitudes (assuming a common distance with the primary) with their given colours in near-infrared and optical to near-infrared colour-magnitude diagrams (CMDs). The factor of 1.5 in the fourth selection criterion was a compromise justified by the fact that several known wide binaries among the nearby CPM pairs in TGAS alone and in TGAS/UCAC5 would have been excluded with a factor of 1.0, whereas factors of 2.0–2.5 led again to more doubtful candidates.

After applying the first selection criterion, the number of CPM candidates reduced to about 86 000 (\(\approx 1\%\) of the original number of selected field stars). With the following two criteria, it further reduced to about 22 000 and 11 000, respectively. The fourth and decisive criterion led to only 72 (\(\approx 0.001\%\)) CPM candidates, most of which turned out to be main sequence (MS) stars (see Figs. 2 and 3).

3.2. WD companion candidates in CMDs

After selecting only those 871 with accurate 2MASS photometry among the 973 stars of the TGAS 25 pc sample, the near-infrared CMD in Fig. 2 (black plus signs) shows the MS populated from (a few late-F and) early-G to early-M spectral types and a small WD sequence of four isolated WDs, WD 1142–645 (DG6.4), WD 1647+591 (DA4.1), WD 1917–077 (DBQZ4.9), and WD 2117+539 (DA3.6), as already mentioned by Tremblay et al. (2017) (spectral types are taken from Holberg et al. 2016). Figure 2 also shows the CPM companions identified in our search (filled red diamonds), where we assume that the parallax of a CPM companion is the same as that of its TGAS primary. With our CPM companion search aiming at WD companions, we did not expect to find late-M dwarfs (and brown dwarfs with late-M, L, or T spectral types) with \(M_J > 10\), as even the nearest of these objects are too faint...
to be included in UCAC5. Consequently, the UCAC5 CPM companions only slightly extend the MS towards fainter magnitudes. For comparison we show in Fig. 2 that late-M and early-L dwarfs occupy the lower right part of the near-infrared CMD as derived from accurate parallaxes by Dupuy & Liu (2012).

From nine known WD companions of TGAS stars within 25 pc (Tremblay et al. 2017), only three of these companions are included in UCAC5 (WD 0433+270, WD 0751–252, and WD 2154–512). All three of these companions were found by our CPM selection criteria. They extend the small WD sequence in Fig. 2 (red filled diamonds overplotted by blue crosses) to the red. Their angular separations range between 28 arcsec and 400 arcsec. The other six WD companions that are not in UCAC5 have smaller angular separations (7–17 arcsec) from their bright primaries, which may have prevented their detection on the UCAC images; two of these WD companions may also have been too faint (V > 16) to be observed within the UCAC survey.

The data of known and candidate nearby (d < 25 pc) TGAS/UCAC5 CPM pairs including a WD companion, all found with the selection criteria described in Sect. 3.1, are listed in the upper section of Table 1. Two of the three new WD companion candidates have relatively small angular separations, whereas the third, HD 35650 B, looks with its large angular separation at approximately the same distance similar to the known very wide CPM companion SCR 07537-2524. Consequently, in these two pairs the pmo effect is relatively small compared to the proper motion errors.

From Fig. 2 it is obvious that the WD companion candidates “1” and “2” fit well into the sequence of known WDs, whereas candidate “3” lies a bit off and just right of the WD/subdwarf dividing line described by Subasavage et al. (2017). Doubtful candidates indicated with “?”, which had the largest angular separations (≈1000–1750 arcsec) but relatively small (60–90 mas yr\(^{-1}\)) total proper motions, are in this near-infrared CMD either much redder or brighter than the WD sequence. However, because of their small proper motions and spectral classification (in SIMBAD) of their apparent primaries as normal MS stars, we cannot consider these doubtful CPM companions as nearby subdwarf candidates. With their large separations, it is much more likely that these are chance alignments of distant MS stars (with distances in the range of 50–500 pc) according to their G – J colour and apparent G magnitudes with the nearby TGAS stars. In fact, if we compute the ratio according to Eq. (1), replacing the \( pm_{\text{mod}} \) used by Lépine & Bongiorno (2007) with our lower proper motion limit \( pm_{\text{lim}} = 0.06 \text{ arcsec yr}^{-1} \), we obtain for these six doubtful CPM pairs values between 1.4 and 5.3, indicating chance alignments. The tangential velocities derived from the proper motions and the estimated larger photometric distances of these rejected CPM companions are mostly in the range of 20–80 km s\(^{-1}\) that is typical of the Galactic thin disk population. The resulting tangential velocity was larger (≈150 km s\(^{-1}\)) for one object alone, which can be identified as 2MASS J06233146-5952448 (located just above the dashed line in Fig. 3), such that this object might be a distant (K-type) subdwarf (thick disk object) unrelated to our solar neighbourhood TGAS sample.

For candidate “3”, this ratio is also large (2.1) indicating a probable chance alignment. However, its separation is only moderately large (about 465 arcsec) and its location in Fig. 3 lies much closer to the WD sequence. Therefore, we consider this object as a weak WD companion candidate. Interestingly, its relatively blue colour (\( G – J \approx +1.1 \)) and faint magnitude (\( G \approx 15 \)) lead to an alternative photometric distance of ≈800 pc and tangential velocity of ≈260 km s\(^{-1}\), if it is unrelated. In this case, this would be a distant G-type subdwarf candidate, possibly belonging to the Galactic halo population. For all other CPM candidates, including known WD companions and the WD companion candidates 1 and 2, the ratio from Eq. (1) was always smaller than 0.4, with a mean value of 0.02, confirming their real CPM status.

Concerning the location of candidate 3 close to the WD/subdwarf dividing line (dotted line in Fig. 2), we note that the \( J – K_s \) colours used in Subasavage et al. (2017) were not directly measured in but were transformed to the 2MASS system. The position of this dividing line is questionable in view of the widespread \( J – K_s \) colour distribution of the shown M/L subdwarfs and obviously not valid for the latest type (coolest) known subdwarfs, SSSPM J1013-1356 (sdM9.5), 2MASS J16262034+3925190 (sdL4), and 2MASS J05325346+8246465 (sdL7). The remaining seven M/L subdwarfs seem to represent better the 60 pc cool subdwarf sample (presumably dominated by sdK and early-sdM subdwarfs) that was used by Subasavage et al. (2017) in finding the \( J – K_s = +0.5 \) dividing line. We considered objects as WD candidates if they were falling below two colour-magnitude limits (shown by the dashed lines in Figs. 2 and 3)

\[
M_G > 10.0 + (2.5 \ast (G – J)),
\]

\[
M_J > 11.0 + (3.0 \ast (J – K_s)).
\]

Contrary to the WD/subdwarf confusion in a near-infrared \( MJ/J – K_s \) diagram (Fig. 2), we expect a clearer separation of the MS, subdwarf, and WD sequences in an optical to near-infrared CMD. As Gaia provides accurate magnitudes, albeit in a very broad optical band, we studied the TGAS 25 pc sample and our UCAC5 CPM candidates together with the comparison objects from Dupuy & Liu (2012) in an \( MJ/J – G \) diagram (Fig. 3). Unfortunately, only 3 out of 10 M/L subdwarfs could be identified in Gaia DR1 (with Gaia magnitudes 16.3 < \( G < 17.7 \)). This low identification rate may be due to the very large proper motions of these ultracool subdwarfs, which are probably problematic for Gaia DR1. Among the comparison late-M and early-L dwarfs, we identified 6 out of 58 (only 10%; 15.8 < \( G < 17.7 \)) and 7 out of 12 (58%; 18.5 < \( G < 20.6 \)) objects in Gaia DR1, respectively. The very low identification rate of the relatively bright and nearby late-M dwarfs may be caused by their large parallaxes and proper motions and selection criteria for problematic sources in Gaia DR1. The much fainter early-L dwarfs have typically smaller parallaxes and proper motions so that their identification rate is similar to that found for all L and T dwarfs in Gaia DR1 (45%; Smart et al. 2017).

The MS in Fig. 3 shows a large gap at the expected position of early- to mid-M dwarfs. Three labelled late-M subdwarfs form a parallel sequence shifted from the MS by ≈0.5 mag to the blue. Some of the doubtful CPM candidates marked with “?” seem to fall in the same region, but we consider these candidates as chance alignments rather than nearby subdwarf candidates (see above). The WD sequence is also almost parallel with respect to the MS, but shows a large blue-shift of ≈3.0 mag. The new WD candidates 1 and 2 are now located at the blue and red end of the WD sequence, suggesting a hot and a cool WD, respectively. The two L-type subdwarfs, which fell right in the WD sequence in the near-infrared CMD (Fig. 2) have no Gaia magnitudes yet, but we expect these subdwarfs to fall in the lower right corner of Fig. 3, well separated from the WDs in \( G – J \) colour.
The region between WDs and cool subdwarfs in Fig. 3 investigated CPM candidates further. The M/L subdwarfs have almost identical and their UCAC5 magnitudes fall in the same

\[
\text{TYC 3980-1081-1} + \text{HD 166435} + \text{SCR J0753-2524} - \text{2MASS, } \text{TYC 3980-1081-1 B} = \text{WD 0727 + 482} + \text{2MASS, } \text{TYC 3980-1081-1} \text{-} \text{28.7, 251} - \text{27.131577} 51.010412 (28.7, 251) - 27.131577 57.2 4.4 0.013 DA7? 2

Notes. Gaia coordinates are for (J2000, epoch 2015.0) and were rounded to 0.000001 degrees. Although the TGAS data may be more accurate, all parallaxes and their errors were rounded to 0.1 mas, proper motions and their errors to 0.1 mas yr\(^{-1}\). The absolute values of measured proper motion differences \(\Delta \mu\) and the estimated effect because of orbital motion \(\mu_{\text{true}}\) were rounded to 1 mas yr\(^{-1}\). Magnitudes and colours were rounded to 0.01 mag. Spectral types with question marks are only guesses based on \(G \sim J\) and \(M_\text{bol}\) (Figs. 3 and 5). Further notes on the data: \(\text{DR1}, \text{2MASS}, \text{TGAS}, \text{UCAC5}, \text{UPC}, \text{two values are given for RA and Dec, respectively, } \text{3}\) \text{J}\text{magnitude with very poor goodness-of-fit quality of the profile-fit photometry.} \text{An accurate parallax of } 87.4 \pm 0.5\text{ mas measured for this close binary by } \text{Nelan et al. (2015).} \text{Subasavage et al. (2009)} \text{measured a parallax of } 56.4 \pm 0.5\text{ mas.} \text{This object is not plotted in Figs. 4 and 5, since it was not identified in Gaia DR1.}

References. (1) Holberg et al. (2016); (2) this paper; (3) Gray et al. (2003); (4) Gaidos et al. (2014); (5) Torres et al. (2006); (6) Gray et al. (2006).

We note that all the M/L subdwarfs from Dupuy & Liu (2012) are fainter than the UCAC5 magnitude limit of \(R \approx 16\text{mag}\). The same is true for the MS late-M and early-L dwarfs. As already discussed above, the Gaia magnitude intervals for the M/L subdwarfs and the MS late-M/early-L dwarfs are almost identical and their UCAC5 magnitudes fall in the same range. With our quality cut for UCAC5 proper motion errors, we effectively reduced the limiting UCAC5 magnitude of the investigated CPM candidates further. The M/L subdwarfs have in addition very large proper motions (between \(\approx 600\text{ mas yr}^{-1}\) and \(\approx 3500\text{ mas yr}^{-1}\)) so that we were not expecting to find such objects in our CPM search aiming at relatively small proper motions. The region between WDs and cool subdwarfs in Fig. 3 should be empty. Therefore, all CPM candidates falling in this CMD close to the arbitrary drawn dividing line between WDs and subdwarfs have to be taken with caution, independent of their possible chance alignment that we evaluated using Eq. (1).

4. UPC parallaxes confirming two WD companions

The primaries of our WD companion candidates 1 and 2, HD 166435 and TYC 3980-1081-1, were only parallaxed to the 25 pc sample. The original HIPPARCOS (ESA 1997) parallax of the well-known early-G star HD 166435 placed it at about 25.2 pc, whereas the revised HIPPARCOS (van Leeuwen 2007) results led to a distance of 24.8 pc and the TGAS parallax finally fixed it at 24.58 pc. Finch et al. (2014) discovered the Gaia star TYC 3980-1081-1 as a close neighbour of the Sun, estimating a photometric distance of 5.9 pc; this discovery occurred before a first trigonometric parallax from URAT data was reported by Finch & Zacharias (2016b) giving a distance of about 6.5 pc. The full UPC catalogue, including all significant parallaxes determined from the complete northern hemisphere URAT data, was only recently made available (Finch & Zacharias 2016a). The TGAS parallax of TYC 3980-1081-1 corresponds to a distance of 8.29 pc, still well within the 10 pc limit. From its absolute magnitude of \(M_\text{J} = 6.94\) we estimate a spectral type of \(\approx M2\) for TYC 3980-1081-1 using the relationship between absolute magnitudes and spectral types from Scholz et al. (2005).

Interestingly, not only HD 166435 and TYC 3980-1081-1 can be found in the UPC, but also their WD companion candidates 1 and 2, which we selected based on their CPM in TGAS and UCAC5. We call these HD 166435 B and TYC 3980-1081-1 B, respectively. Their UPC parallaxes, albeit much less accurate
than the TGAS parallaxes, are similarly large (see upper section of Table 1) as for the primaries and confirm a common distance, respectively. This is important in particular for our second candidate, TYC 3980-1081-1. However, the close distance and small separation of this CPM pair lead to a very large pmo value and the proper motion difference is not much larger than this expected effect from orbital motion. In case of the known binary Ross 429/SCR J0753-2524, discovered by Subasavage et al. (2005), the proper motion differences are also relatively large with respect to the corresponding pmo value (Table 1). In our fourth selection criterion described in Sect. 3.1 we took also into account the proper motion errors, which are relatively large for the UCAC5 proper motion of SCR J0753-2524.

The UPC proper motions of three CPM companions, also given in the upper section of Table 1, are less accurate than their UCAC5 proper motions. However, for the two relatively bright WD companions, HD 166435 B and TYC 3980-1081-1 B, the combined parallax and proper motion solution in the UPC led to more similar proper motions compared to Astrometry and photometry of known their primaries, respectively. For the fainter known companion WD 0433+270 the UPC errors of its parallax and proper motion are much larger and the UCAC5 proper motion is in better agreement with the TGAS proper motion of the primary than the UPC proper motion.

5. Additional WD candidates from the UPC

Finch & Zacharias (2016b) have already studied stars falling in a 25 pc sample according to significant parallax measurements in the UPC. These authors mentioned many new nearby stars with small proper motions (<200 mas yr<sup>-1</sup>) but did not pay special attention to potential WDs among their new neighbour candidates. In their notes on individual systems these authors discussed the nearest new discoveries and found many of these discoveries to be suspicious with respect to blended or elongated images and/or large scatter in the combined fit for parallax and proper motion. These suspicious nearest candidates have parallax and proper motion errors of typically 10–25 mas and 10–20 mas yr<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. From ≈112,000 stars in the full UPC available at the CDS (Finch & Zacharias 2016c), ≈5200 have parallaxes >40 mas and for ≈3700 of these the parallax errors are smaller than 10 mas. As the UPC covers only about half of the sky, this number appears very high in comparison with the already mentioned RECONS all-sky 25 pc census, and the new UPC neighbours need to be taken with caution.

To evaluate potential WDs in near-infrared and optical to near-infrared CMDs, similar to those shown in Figs 2 and 3, we cross-matched the UPC with 2MASS and Gaia DR1. We found ≈3700 UPC stars within 25 pc that have both 2MASS and Gaia counterparts. As expected from the two different parts of the UPC (stars with or without previously known parallaxes; see Finch & Zacharias 2016a,c) the error distribution for the UPC parallaxes rises to a peak at 10 mas before it abruptly turns down to a long tail reaching to about 60 mas. The proper motion errors show a more symmetric distribution with a maximum at about 4 mas yr<sup>-1</sup>, a smooth decrease to 10 mas yr<sup>-1</sup>, and also a long tail continuing to about 40 mas yr<sup>-1</sup>.

For our final UPC 25 pc sample, consisting of ≈1600 stars, we applied the following quality criteria concerning the parallax and proper motion errors, eplx and epm, respectively, and also used a lower limit for the total proper motion:

- eplx<sub>Upc</sub> < 10 mas;
- epm<sub>Upc</sub> < 10 mas yr<sup>-1</sup> (in RA and Dec components);
- UPC total proper motion >60 mas yr<sup>-1</sup>;

The resulting CMDs are shown in Figs. 4 and 5. As in Figs. 2 and 3, we plot stars with reliable 2MASS photometry as plus signs, but overplot all stars independent of their 2MASS quality with various symbols corresponding to their
source flags (srcflg) given in the UPC. Stars with srcflg = 0, without previously published parallaxes in SIMBAD or other catalogues, are plotted as filled red squares (except for GJ 4165 lacking a G magnitude) and are listed in the lower section of Table 1 if not already listed in the upper section. Because of the deeper limiting magnitude of URAT compared to UCAC5, the MS is now mainly populated with M dwarfs that were lacking in TGAS and TGAS/UCAC5 CPM data. With \( M_J = 6-11 \), these are M0–M7 dwarfs according to Scholz et al. (2005). As expected from the lower accuracy of the UPC parallaxes in comparison to TGAS, the MS and the WD sequence in Figs. 4 and 5 do not look as narrow as in Figs. 2 and 3. In particular, many of the new UPC neighbours (srcflg = 0 and srcflg = 3) are located left of the MS, where only few subdwarfs are expected. However, all our WD candidates defined by Eqs. (3) and (4) are well separated from the cloud of suspicious subdwarfs left of the MS. The only WD located close to the corresponding dashed line in Fig. 3, WD 0727+482, is a close binary, expected to be brighter. We also note that none of the 34 known WDs and 3 WD candidates 1, 2 and 4 in Fig. 4 falls right of the WD/subdwarf dividing line of Subasavage et al. (2017). The new candidate “4” is a previously anonymous field star, UPC 72924.

When we tried to allow for larger parallax and proper motion errors in the UPC 25 pc sample, for example, 12 mas and 12 mas yr\(^{-1}\) or 15 mas and 15 mas yr\(^{-1}\), respectively, a few additional known WDs were recovered. These WDs all fell in the WD regions below the dashed lines in both CMDs, whereas new WD candidates were not found. On the other hand, a lower proper motion limit of 40 mas yr\(^{-1}\) led to many more suspicious objects falling closer to the dashed lines in both CMDs but only one more WD candidate that we nevertheless considered as unreliable because of its relatively large image elongation and large scatter of the post-fit residuals given in the UPC.

We note that unless we did not search for CPM candidates in the UPC alone or with respect to TGAS, one of the known WDs with a UPC parallax in Table 1, WD 0727+482, which is a close binary itself, is a member of a wide multiple system. This system includes GJ 275.2 A, which has a similarly large UPC parallax in Table 1, WD 0727+482, which is a close binary itself, is a member of a wide multiple system. This system includes GJ 275.2 A, which has a similarly large image elongation and large scatter of the post-fit residuals given in the UPC.

We also measured the equivalent widths of the H\(\beta\) and H\(\alpha\) lines, relative to their well-defined continuum in the three spectra of Fig. 6. Whereas our results for H\(\alpha\) support a slightly earlier classification of HD 166435 B (DA1.9) compared to WD 2032+248 (DA2.4; red line), and WD 2149+021 (DA2.8; green line) (Gianninas et al. 2011), observed with the same instrument set-up. All spectra are normalised at 4600 Å.

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6. One spectroscopically confirmed WD companion

Our WD candidate HD 166435 B was already included in our earlier large programme concentrating on the spectroscopic classification of nearby cool WD and subdwarf candidates. Within this programme it was one of the targets with the smallest proper motion at that time selected from an earlier UCAC version. Large numbers of comparison objects with known spectral types were also observed. The low-resolution spectroscopic observations were carried out in 2008 (August 8/9) using the focal reducer and faint object spectrograph CAFOs mounted at the 2.2 m telescope at Calar Alto, Spain. We used the grism B 200 giving a wavelength coverage from about 3500 Å to 7000 Å and a dispersion of 4.7 Å per pixel. All spectra were reduced with standard routines from the ESO MIDAS data reduction package.

Figure 6 shows the normalised spectrum of HD 166435 B together with those of two comparison objects observed during the same observing run. In this comparison HD 166435 B appears very similar to the DA2.4 and DA2.8 white dwarfs and could be classified as DA2.0 from its bluer continuum. The very blue continuum of HD 166435 B is consistent with its magnitudes and the resulting negative FUV – NUV colour index measured by the Galaxy Evolution Explorer (GALEX; Bianchi et al. 2011). FUV = 12.068 ± 0.003 and NUV = 12.735 ± 0.004, compared to FUV = 12.604 ± 0.007 and NUV = 12.688 ± 0.005 and a zero colour index for WD 2149+021 (WD 2032+248 was not measured by GALEX). The distances of HD 166435 B and WD 2149+021 are very similar with ±24.6 pc (TGAS) and ±24.5 pc (Limoges et al. 2015), respectively.

We also measured the equivalent widths of the H\(\beta\) and H\(\alpha\) lines, relative to their well-defined continuum in the three spectra of Fig. 6. Whereas our results for H\(\alpha\) support a slightly earlier classification of HD 166435 B (DA1.9) compared to WD 2032+248 (DA2.1) and WD 2149+021 (DA2.5), the equivalent widths of H\(\beta\), measured with higher signal to noise, hint at DA2.4, DA2.2, and DA2.7, respectively. We assign a preliminary spectral type of DA2.2 ± 0.2 to HD 166435 B.

For the other two WD companion candidates, TYC 3980-1081-1 B and HD 35650 B, we only assume cool DA types from their location in the optical to near-infrared CMD (Fig. 3) in comparison to the known WDs GI 171.2 B and SCR 1849+0851 (Table 1). For the WD candidate UPC 72924 we assume a spectral type of ≈DA7 from comparing its G – J colour with those of known WDs found in our study of the UPC 25 pc sample.

7. Conclusions

We draw the following conclusions from our study of nearby (d < 25 pc) WDs in TGAS+UCAC5 and URAT data:

1. Compared to only four known WDs in TGAS and three known WD companions in UCAC5, our three new WD companion candidates represent an increase of ≈43%.

2. Two of our new WD companion candidates are confirmed by parallax measurements in the UPC. One, HD 166435 B, orbits a G-type star at a distance of ≈24.6 pc with a projected physical separation of ≈700 AU; the other, TYC 3980-1081-1 B, orbits an early-M dwarf at only ≈8.3 pc distance with a projected physical separation of ≈120 AU. The third WD companion candidate, HD 35650 B, has a very large projected physical separation from its primary of ≈8100 AU, similar to that of the known wide companion...
and for their help with the observations. We thank Axel Schwöpe for providing equivalent rights of Balmer lines in DA WDs. It is a pleasure to thank Benjamin Braun and Peter Grodzewitz for their help with a first look at the TGAS and TGAS/UCAC5 nearby subsamples during their internships at AIP in February and May 2017, respectively. We would like to thank the referee for many valuable comments and suggestions that helped us improve the paper.

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