

A 3D SEARCH FOR COMPANIONS TO 12 NEARBY M DWARFS

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ABSTRACT

We present a carefully vetted equatorial ($\pm 30^\circ$ decl.) sample of all known single (within $4''$) mid M dwarfs (M2.5 V–M8.0 V) extending out to 10 pc; their proximity and low masses make them ideal targets for planet searches. For this sample of 58 stars, we provide V_J , R_{KC} , and I_{KC} photometry, new low-dispersion optical (6000–9000 Å) spectra from which uniform spectral types are determined, multi-epoch H α equivalent widths, and gravity-sensitive Na I indices. For 12 of these 58 stars, strict limits are placed on the presence of stellar and substellar companions based on a pioneering program described here that utilizes precise infrared radial velocities (RVs) and optical astrometric measurements in an effort to search for Jupiter-mass, brown dwarf, and stellar-mass companions. Our infrared RV precision using CSHELL at NASA’s Infrared Telescope Facility is ~ 90 m s $^{-1}$ over timescales from 13 days to 5 yr. With our spectroscopic results the mean companion masses that we rule out of existence are $1.5 M_{JUP}$ or greater in 10 day orbital periods and $7 M_{JUP}$ or greater in 100 day orbital periods. We use these spectra to determine rotational velocities and absolute RVs of these 12 stars. Our mean astrometric precision using Research Consortium on Nearby Stars (RECONS; www.recons.org) data from the 0.9 m telescope at Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory is ~ 3 mas over baselines ranging from 9 to 13 yr. With our astrometric results the mean companion masses that we rule out of existence are greater than $11.5 M_{JUP}$ with an orbital period of 4 yr and greater than $7.5 M_{JUP}$ with an orbital period of 8 yr. Although we do not detect companions around our subsample of 12 stars, we demonstrate that our two techniques probe a regime that is commonly missed in other companion searches of late-type stars.

Key words: planets and satellites: gaseous planets – stars: low-mass – stars: statistics

1. INTRODUCTION

Given humankind’s search for life in the universe, there is great motivation to find Earth-size and Earth-mass planets in the habitable zones of stars. Recent studies have determined that Earth-size planets are common around M dwarfs. Morton & Swift (2013) estimate an occurrence rate of 1.5 planets per M dwarf with periods less than 90 days and radii larger than $0.5R_\oplus$, using the list of 4000 stars with temperatures below 4000 K assembled in Batalha et al. (2013) that were observed with the *Kepler* mission (Borucki et al. 2010; Koch et al. 2010). This estimate is consistent with but slightly higher than previous studies, which measure occurrence rates of approximately one planet per M dwarf (Youdin 2011; Mann et al. 2012; Dressing & Charbonneau 2013; Swift et al. 2013). Given the apparent abundance of Earth-size planets orbiting M dwarfs, which dominate the stellar population (75%; Henry et al. 2006), Dressing & Charbonneau (2013) predict that the nearest non-transiting planet in the habitable zone orbiting an M dwarf is within 5 pc of the Sun, with 95% confidence. However, how suitable these nearby planets within the classically defined habitable zone (e.g., Kasting et al. 1993) may be for life is still under debate (e.g., Tarter et al. 2007; Barnes et al. 2011; Guedel et al. 2014). Nevertheless, given their ubiquity and proximity, M dwarfs are ideal stars to search for Earth-size and Earth-mass planets in stellar habitable zones.

M dwarfs have been the favorite targets of precision searches for low-mass planets because a planetary companion will

induce a greater reflex motion on a low-mass star than a Sun-like star, making it easier to detect. However, not all M dwarfs are equally suitable targets for the precision measurements needed to find Earth-mass companions. Some M dwarfs have close stellar or substellar companions that may inhibit the detection of Earth-mass planets. The dynamically disruptive effects of these companions could also preclude the existence of Earth-mass planets; the lack of short-period giant planets in multiple planet systems corroborates this hypothesis (Latham et al. 2011; Steffen et al. 2012; Batalha et al. 2013). Some M stars also exhibit high chromospheric activity and large rotational velocities, which can hinder the achievable radial velocity (RV) precision (Mohanty & Basri 2003; Reiners & Basri 2008; Jenkins et al. 2009; Reiners 2013); this is especially problematic for mid to late (M3 and cooler) M dwarfs. Given the above considerations, we argue that the best stars to target for Earth-mass planet searches are likely the lowest mass stars (mid to late M dwarfs) that do not have a disruptive companion, and are both inactive and slowly rotating.

Yet, the statistics characterizing companions around mid to late M dwarfs are still incomplete. Preliminary surveys show that Jupiter-mass companions are rare around M dwarfs. Using RV measurements and high-contrast imaging, Montet et al. (2014) found that $6.5 \pm 3.0\%$ of M dwarfs (M0–M5.5) host a giant planet ($1\text{--}13 M_{JUP}$) with a semimajor axis smaller than 20 AU, but this sample only included 18 M dwarfs of M4 or later in their survey of 111 M dwarfs. Another large M-dwarf

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14. ABSTRACT

We present a carefully vetted equatorial (??30??? decl.) sample of all known single (within 4???) mid M dwarfs (M2.5 V???M8.0 V) extending out to 10 pc; their proximity and low masses make them ideal targets for planet searches. For this sample of 58 stars, we provide VJ, RKC, and IKC photometry, new low-dispersion optical (6000-9000) spectra from which uniform spectral types are determined, multi-epoch H?? equivalent widths, and gravity-sensitive Na I indices. For 12 of these 58 stars, strict limits are placed on the presence of stellar and substellar companions based on a pioneering program described here that utilizes precise infrared radial velocities (RVs) and optical astrometric measurements in an effort to search for Jupiter-mass, brown dwarf, and stellar-mass companions. Our infrared RV precision using CSHELL at NASA???'s Infrared Telescope Facility is ???90 m s???1 over timescales from 13 days to 5 yr. With our spectroscopic results the mean companion masses that we rule out of existence are 1.5MJUP or greater in 10 day orbital periods and 7MJUP or greater in 100 day orbital periods. We use these spectra to determine rotational velocities and absolute RVs of these 12 stars. Our mean astrometric precision using Research Consortium on Nearby Stars (RECONS; www.recons.org) data from the 0.9 m telescope at Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory is ???3 mas over baselines ranging from 9 to 13 yr. With our astrometric results the mean companion masses that we rule out of existence are greater than 11.5MJUP with an orbital period of 4 yr and greater than 7.5MJUP with an orbital period of 8 yr. Although we do not detect companions around our subsample of 12 stars, we demonstrate that our two techniques probe a regime that is commonly missed in other companion searches of late-type stars.

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survey of 102 stars (Bonfils et al. 2013) only included M dwarfs with $V < 14$ and finds the giant planet ($m_{\text{sin}i} = 100\text{--}1000 M_{\oplus}$) frequency to be 2% for orbital periods between 10 and 100 days, and the super-Earth ($m_{\text{sin}i} = 1\text{--}10 M_{\oplus}$) frequency with orbital periods between 10 and 100 days to be significantly higher at 52%. Many of the M dwarfs not surveyed are faint and chromospherically active, which limits the achievable RV precision and chances to find Earth-mass planets. As a result, these two surveys, which are representative of other spectroscopic M-dwarf surveys, include very few mid to late M dwarfs and can report only preliminary statistics for planet occurrence around such stars.

In order to obtain an unbiased assessment of the companion fraction of the nearest mid M dwarfs, we construct a volume-limited sample out to 10 pc. Based on new, uniform optical spectra, we present this sample of 58 stars in Section 2. We report spectral types, $H\alpha$ equivalent widths (EWs), and Na I indices for these stars in Section 3. We list our V_J , R_{KC} , I_{KC} ⁷ (hereafter without subscripts) photometry in Section 4. In Section 5, we focus on a subsample of 12 stars, for which we obtain high-dispersion infrared spectroscopic data described in Section 6 and astrometric data in Section 7. Results for the remaining stars in our volume-limited sample will be presented in a subsequent paper. We describe our Monte Carlo technique and rule out the existence of massive gas-giant companions, brown dwarfs, and stellar companions in Section 8, and we conclude with a brief summary in Section 9.

2. SAMPLE SELECTION

2.1. An Equatorial Sample of Nearby Mid M dwarfs

Beginning with a parent volume-limited sample of stars extending out to 10 pc (unpublished list; Henry et al. 2006), we assembled a sample of mid M dwarfs for detailed study outlined in Table 1. These stars are within the declination range of $\pm 30^\circ$ and are thus accessible to the majority of observing facilities in both the northern and southern hemispheres. To be inclusive, we define mid M stars using three independent measures, including optical spectral type, ($V-K$) color, and absolute magnitude. Starting with the complete 10 pc sample, we include stars meeting one of the following criteria: spectral types between M3.5V and M8.0V classified by the Research Consortium on Nearby Stars (RECONS) system (described in Section 3), $V-K = 5.0\text{--}9.0$ mag, or $M_V = 12.0\text{--}19.0$ mag. There are 69 systems that meet at least one of these criteria.⁸ Of those systems, 13 are known binaries, 5 are known triples, 1 is a quintuple system (GJ 644ABCD-GJ 643), and 1 is a known multi-planet host (GJ 876; Rivera et al. 2010). The 21 close-separation ($< 4''$) mid M-dwarf binaries⁹ within the distance and declination range of this sample are listed in Table 2. Also listed are 2MASS coordinates, parallaxes, spectral types, absolute V magnitudes, V , R , I apparent magnitudes, near-infrared photometry from 2MASS (J , H , K_s apparent magnitudes), and the configuration of the system.

A subsample of mid M dwarfs is constructed that excludes these close binaries ($< 4''$) and the planetary host GJ 876. This

subsample includes seven mid M dwarfs that are wide companions to higher mass stars (GJ 105B, GJ 166C, GJ 283B, GJ 644C, GJ 752B, GJ 896B, GJ 1230B). At the start of this program, 60 mid M dwarfs met the sample requirements. Subsequently, GJ 867B has been determined to be a single-lined spectroscopic binary with a period of 1.795 days (Davison et al. 2014). Likewise, LHS 1610 has been claimed to be a spectroscopic binary (Bonfils et al. 2013), but its orbital properties are unknown. Table 1 lists the astrometric, photometric, spectroscopic, and physical properties of the remaining 58 stars, which we refer to as effectively single equatorial mid M dwarfs. Mass estimates in Table 1 are based on the mass luminosity relations of Henry & McCarthy (1993) and Henry et al. (1999), and typical errors using these relations are close to 20%. Because the long-term goal of this program is to conduct a more comprehensive 3D search for companions to these stars, we refer to this sample as CAESAR, which stands for a Companion Assessment of Equatorial Stars with Astrometry and Radial Velocity.

Of the 58 stars identified above as possible targets for precision planet searches among equatorial mid M dwarfs, only 33 of the stars have been included in past spectroscopic searches for planetary companions (Barnes et al. 2012; Rodler et al. 2012; Tanner et al. 2012; Bonfils et al. 2013; Montet et al. 2014). In addition, 4 of the 58 stars do not have known projected rotational velocity ($v \sin i$) values, and thus could be rapidly rotating (see Table 1).

3. OPTICAL SPECTROSCOPIC MEASUREMENTS

3.1. Observations

We obtained optical (6000–9000 Å) spectra of all 58 stars in the CAESAR sample between 2003–2006 and 2009–2011 using the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory (CTIO) 1.5 m Richey–Chretien Spectrograph with the Loral 1200 × 800 CCD camera, as part of the broader RECONS spectral-typing program (e.g., Henry et al. 2004; Jao et al. 2008). The spectra were obtained with the #32 grating in first order with a 15:1 tilt, which yields a spectral resolution of 8.6 Å; the spectra were acquired through the OG570 order blocking filter. For consistency checks and to mitigate the effects of cosmic rays, two spectra of each target were taken consecutively. In addition, the majority of stars have spectroscopic observations on multiple epochs. To assist with spectral classification, at least one flux standard was observed each night, and an ensemble collection of spectral standards from Henry et al. (2002) were observed. Some of the stars in the CAESAR sample are used as standards, namely GJ 283B, GJ 644C, GJ 752B, GJ 1065, GJ 1111, GJ 1154, GJ 1207, LHS 292, LHS 2090, and LHS 3799.

The data were reduced with standard IRAF techniques; bias subtraction and dome and/or sky flat fielding were performed on the data using calibration frames taken at the beginning of each night. Fringing was effectively removed from the data using a combination of dome and sky flats. One flux standard per night was used for absolute flux calibration. Spectra were wavelength calibrated using consecutively recorded HeAr arc spectra. Further details regarding reduction and extraction are given in Henry et al. (2004).

⁷ Subscripts: J indicates Johnson and KC indicates Kron–Cousins.

⁸ We include GJ 628 with $V-K = 4.99$ in our sample, as its $V-K$ value may be greater than 5.0 given our photometric uncertainties.

⁹ This list includes four mid M-dwarf binaries that are wide companions to more massive stars (LP 771-096BC, GJ 569BC, GJ 695BC, GJ 867BD).

Table 1
Effectively Single Equatorial ($\pm 30^\circ$ decl.) mid M dwarfs within 10 pc

Name	R.A. J2000.0	Decl. J2000.0	Parallax ^a (mas)	SpType	Mass ^b (M_\odot)	M_V (mag)	V_J (mag)	R_{KC} (mag)	I_{KC} (mag)	# nts.	J^c (mag)	H^c (mag)	K_S^c (mag)	$v \sin i^d$ (km s^{-1})
GJ 1002	00 06 43.2	-07 32 17.0	213.00 ± 3.60^1	M5.0V	0.11	15.48	13.84	12.21	10.21	3	8.23	7.79	7.44	$<3.0^1$
GJ 54.1	01 12 30.6	-16 59 56.3	$269.08 \pm 2.99^{1,2}$	M4.0Ve	0.13	14.30	12.15	10.73	8.95	2	7.26	6.75	6.42	$<2.5^2$
LHS 1302	01 51 04.5	-06 07 04.8	100.78 ± 1.89^3	M4.5Ve	0.13	14.51	14.49	13.00	11.16	5	9.41	8.84	8.55	...
GJ 83.1	02 00 13.0	+13 03 07.0	224.80 ± 2.90^1	M4.0Ve	0.14	14.11	12.35	10.95	9.18	3	7.51	6.97	6.65	$<2.5^2$
LHS 1326	02 02 16.2	+10 20 13.7	112.00 ± 3.20^1	M5.0Ve	0.10	15.95	15.70	13.99	11.91	3	9.84	9.25	8.93	$<4.5^3$
LHS 1375	02 16 29.8	+13 35 13.7	117.70 ± 4.00^1	M5.0Ve	0.10	16.15	15.80	14.14	12.01	3	9.87	9.31	8.98	12.4^4
GJ 102	02 33 37.2	+24 55 39.2	102.40 ± 2.70^1	M3.5Ve	0.17	13.10	13.05	11.76	10.10	3	8.47	7.91	7.63	...
GJ 105B	02 36 15.4	+06 52 19.1	$138.79 \pm 0.43^{1,2,4}$	M3.5V	0.22	12.42	11.71	10.49	8.88	2	7.33	6.79	6.57	$<2.5^2$
SO 0253+1652	02 53 00.8	+16 52 53.3	$259.41 \pm 0.89^{3,5}$	M7.0V	0.08	17.21	15.14	13.03	10.65	3	8.39	7.88	7.59	10.0^5
LP 771-095A	03 01 51.1	-16 35 30.7	143.81 ± 2.49^3	M2.5V	0.25	12.01	11.22	10.07	8.66	4	7.11	6.56	6.29	5.5^6
GJ 1057	03 13 23.0	+04 46 29.3	117.10 ± 3.50^1	M4.5V	0.13	14.28	13.94	12.45	10.62	3	8.78	8.21	7.83	$<2.2^1$
GJ 1065	03 50 44.3	-06 05 41.7	105.40 ± 3.20^1	M3.5V	0.18	12.93	12.82	11.60	10.04	3	8.57	8.00	7.75	4.0^6
GJ 166C	04 15 21.7	-07 39 17.4	200.65 ± 0.23^2	M4.0Ve	0.19	12.75	11.24	9.99	8.31	3	6.75	6.28	5.96	5.0^8
LP 655-048	04 40 23.3	-05 30 08.3	105.50 ± 3.20^6	M6.0Ve	0.08	17.92	17.80	15.73	13.37	5	10.66	9.99	9.55	16.5^9
LHS 1723	05 01 57.4	-06 56 46.5	187.92 ± 1.26^3	M4.0Ve	0.15	13.57	12.20	10.86	9.18	4	7.62	7.07	6.74	$<3.2^7$
GJ 203	05 28 00.2	+09 38 38.1	$102.60 \pm 2.09^{1,2}$	M3.0V	0.19	12.52	12.46	11.27	9.78	3	8.31	7.84	7.54	4.0^6
GJ 213	05 42 09.3	+12 29 21.6	$171.50 \pm 1.00^{1,2,7}$	M3.5V	0.19	12.71	11.54	10.32	8.68	2	7.12	6.63	6.39	$<2.5^2$
G099-049	06 00 03.5	+02 42 23.6	$190.77 \pm 1.86^{1,3}$	M3.5Ve	0.19	12.71	11.31	10.04	8.43	6	6.91	6.31	6.04	7.4^7
GJ 232	06 24 41.3	+23 25 58.6	119.40 ± 2.30^1	M4.0V	0.15	13.55	13.16	11.86	10.21	3	8.66	8.16	7.91	$<3.1^7$
GJ 1093	06 59 28.7	+19 20 57.7	128.80 ± 3.50^1	M5.0Ve	0.11	15.49	14.94	13.25	11.24	4	9.16	8.55	8.23	$<2.8^1$
GJ 273	07 27 24.5	+05 13 32.8	$266.23 \pm 0.66^{1,2,7}$	M3.0V	0.25	12.01	9.88	8.68	7.14	3	5.71	5.22	4.86	2.5^2
GJ 283B	07 40 19.2	-17 24 45.0	$109.45 \pm 0.51^{1,8,9}$	M6.5Ve	0.16	13.26	13.06	12.89	12.72	4	10.16	9.63	9.29	...
GJ 285	07 44 40.2	+03 33 08.8	$167.19 \pm 2.05^{1,2}$	M4.0Ve	0.23	12.31	11.19	9.91	8.22	4	6.58	6.01	5.70	4.5^{10}
GJ 1103	07 51 54.7	-00 00 11.8	114.00 ± 3.30^1	M4.5V	0.15	13.54	13.26	11.89	10.19	3	8.50	7.94	7.66	...
GJ 299	08 11 57.6	+08 46 22.1	146.30 ± 3.10^1	M3.5V	0.15	13.69	12.86	11.57	9.91	3	8.42	7.93	7.66	3.0^7
GJ 300	08 12 40.9	-21 33 06.8	125.78 ± 0.97^3	M3.5V	0.20	12.65	12.15	10.85	9.22	3	7.60	6.96	6.71	$<3.0^6$
GJ 1111	08 29 49.3	+26 46 33.7	275.80 ± 3.00^1	M6.0Ve	0.09	17.16	14.96	12.89	10.59	3	8.24	7.62	7.26	8.1^7
LHS 2090	09 00 23.6	+21 50 05.4	156.87 ± 2.67^3	M6.0Ve	0.09	17.09	16.11	14.12	11.84	3	9.44	8.84	8.44	20.0^3
LHS 2206	09 53 55.2	+20 56 46.0	$108.69 \pm 2.06^{3,10}$	M4.0Ve	0.14	14.20	14.02	12.63	10.85	3	9.21	8.60	8.33	16.5^3
LHS 292	10 48 12.6	-11 20 08.2	220.30 ± 3.60^1	M6.5Ve	0.08	17.50	15.78	13.63	11.25	3	8.86	8.26	7.93	3.0^1
GJ 402	10 50 52.0	+06 48 29.2	$145.67 \pm 3.17^{1,2}$	M4.0 V	0.21	12.53	11.71	10.43	8.84	3	7.32	6.71	6.37	$<2.5^2$
GJ 406	10 56 28.9	+07 00 53.2	419.10 ± 2.10^1	M5.0Ve	0.09	16.69	13.58	11.64	9.44	2	7.09	6.48	6.08	$<3.0^1$
GJ 447	11 47 44.4	+00 48 16.4	$298.14 \pm 1.37^{1,2}$	M4.0 V	0.16	13.52	11.15	9.79	8.13	3	6.51	5.95	5.65	$<2.5^2$
GJ 1154	12 14 16.5	+00 37 26.4	119.40 ± 3.50^1	M4.5Ve	0.14	14.03	13.64	12.17	10.31	2	8.46	7.86	7.54	5.2^1
GJ 1156	12 18 59.4	+11 07 33.9	152.90 ± 3.00^1	M4.5Ve	0.12	14.87	13.95	12.33	10.38	2	8.53	7.88	7.57	9.2^7
GJ 486	12 47 56.6	+09 45 05.0	119.58 ± 2.64^2	M4.0V	0.28	11.79	11.40	10.21	8.67	2	7.20	6.67	6.36	$<2.5^2$
GJ 493.1	13 00 33.5	+05 41 08.1	123.10 ± 3.50^1	M4.5Ve	0.15	13.85	13.40	12.02	10.26	2	8.55	7.97	7.66	16.8^7
GJ 555	14 34 16.8	-12 31 10.3	$160.78 \pm 1.98^{1,2,11}$	M3.5 V	0.22	12.37	11.34	10.06	8.44	3	6.84	6.26	5.94	$<2.5^2$
LHS 3003	14 56 38.3	-28 09 47.4	$152.49 \pm 2.02^{1,8,12}$	M7.0Ve	0.08	17.99	17.07	14.92	12.54	5	9.97	9.32	8.93	5.0^8
GJ 609	16 02 51.0	+20 35 21.8	100.30 ± 3.10^1	M4.0V	0.20	12.59	12.58	11.32	9.70	2	8.13	7.65	7.37	$<3.0^7$
GJ 628	16 30 18.1	-12 39 45.4	$234.38 \pm 1.50^{1,2}$	M3.0 V	0.26	11.92	10.07	8.89	7.37	3	5.95	5.37	5.08	1.5^{10}
GJ 643	16 55 25.3	-08 19 20.8	$154.96 \pm 0.52^{1,8,13,14}$	M3.0 V	0.19	12.72	11.77	10.55	9.01	3	7.56	7.06	6.72	$<2.7^7$
GJ 644C	16 55 35.3	-08 23 40.1	$154.96 \pm 0.52^{1,8,13,14}$	M7.0Ve	0.08	17.80	16.85	14.64	12.25	3	9.78	9.20	8.82	9.0^1
GJ 1207	16 57 05.7	-04 20 56.0	115.26 ± 1.50^3	M3.5Ve	0.19	12.56	12.25	10.99	9.43	5	7.97	7.44	7.12	10.7^6
GJ 699	17 57 48.5	+04 41 36.2	$545.51 \pm 0.29^{1,2, 15}$	M3.5 V	0.17	13.17	9.49	8.27	6.70	1	5.24	4.83	4.52	$<2.5^2$
GJ 1224	18 07 32.9	-15 57 47.0	132.60 ± 3.70^1	M4.0Ve	0.14	14.09	13.48	12.08	10.31	3	8.64	8.09	7.83	$<3.0^{10}$
GJ 1230B	18 41 09.8	+24 47 19.5	120.90 ± 7.20^1	M4.5Ve	0.19	12.74	12.33	10.97	9.26	4	8.86	8.0	7.77	$<7.1^1$

Table 1
(Continued)

Name	R.A. J2000.0	Decl. J2000.0	Parallax ^a (mas)	SpType	Mass ^b (M_{\odot})	M_V (mag)	V_J (mag)	R_{KC} (mag)	I_{KC} (mag)	# nts.	J^c (mag)	H^c (mag)	K_S^c (mag)	$v \sin i^d$ (km s^{-1})
GJ 729	18 49 49.4	-23 50 10.4	$337.22 \pm 1.97^{1,2}$	M3.5Ve	0.17	13.14	10.50	9.26	7.68	3	6.22	5.66	5.37	4.0^2
GJ 752B	19 16 57.6	+05 09 02.2	$171.20 \pm 0.50^{1,2,16,17}$	M8.0Ve	0.07	18.62	17.45	15.21	12.78	4	9.91	9.23	8.77	6.5^1
GJ 1235	19 21 38.7	+20 52 02.8	100.10 ± 3.50^1	M4.0Ve	0.16	13.47	13.47	12.12	10.46	2	8.80	8.22	7.94	...
GJ 1256	20 40 33.6	+15 29 57.2	102.00 ± 2.20^1	M4.0V	0.16	13.51	13.47	12.10	10.37	3	8.64	8.08	7.75	$<6.5^{11}$
LP 816-060	20 52 33.0	-16 58 29.0	175.03 ± 3.40^2	M3.0V	0.19	12.72	11.50	10.25	8.64	3	7.09	6.52	6.20	$<6.5^{11}$
G188-038	22 01 13.1	+28 18 24.9	$111.70 \pm 1.73^{1,2}$	M3.5Ve	0.23	12.29	12.05	10.77	9.16	2	7.64	7.04	6.78	35.1^6
LHS 3799	22 23 07.0	-17 36 26.1	134.40 ± 4.90^1	M4.5Ve	0.14	13.94	13.30	11.87	10.04	5	8.24	7.64	7.32	$<6.5^{11}$
LP 876-010	22 48 04.5	-24 22 07.5	132.07 ± 1.19^{18}	M4.0Ve	0.17	13.19	12.59	11.31	9.61	3	8.08	7.53	7.21	22.0^{12}
GJ 896A	23 31 52.2	+19 56 14.3	$159.88 \pm 1.53^{1,2,19}$	M3.5Ve	0.33	11.32	10.30	9.13	7.66	2	6.16	5.57	5.33	10.0^8
GJ 896B	23 31 52.6	+19 56 13.9	$159.88 \pm 1.53^{1,2,19}$	M4.0Ve	0.16	13.42	12.40	11.04	9.28	2	7.10	6.56	6.26	15.0^8
GJ 1286	23 35 10.5	-02 23 20.8	138.30 ± 3.50^1	M5.0Ve	0.11	15.43	14.73	13.10	11.10	3	9.15	8.51	8.18	$<5.7^1$

^a When multiple parallax references are listed, the reported value here is the weighted means for each system. Parallax references: (1) van Altena et al. (1995), (2) van Leeuwen (2007), (3) Henry et al. (2006), (4) Ianna et al. (1996), (5) Gatewood & Coban (2009), (6) Shkolnik et al. (2012), (7) Gatewood (2008), (8) Costa et al. (2005), (9) Subasavage et al. (2009), (10) Smart et al. (2010), (11) Jao et al. (2005), (12) Tinney (1996), (13) Söderhjelm (1999), (14) Martin et al. (1998), (15) Benedict et al. (1999), (16) Tinney et al. (1995), (17) Pravdo & Shaklan (2009), (18) Mamajek et al. (2013), (19) Weis (1996). This table only includes previously published parallax measurements. New astrometric measurements from this paper are given in Table 6.

^b Masses were determined using the mass–luminosity relationship of Henry et al. (1999) for stars with $M_V > 12.89$ mag, and the relationship of Henry & McCarthy (1993) for brighter stars. Errors using these relations are typically close to 20%.

^c All J , H , K , magnitudes are from the 2MASS All Sky Catalog of point sources from Skrutskie et al. (2006).

^d $v \sin i$ references: (1) Mohanty & Basri (2003), (2) Browning et al. (2010), (3) Jenkins et al. (2009), (4) Barnes et al. (2014), (5) Tanner et al. (2012), (6) Reiners (2013), (7) Delfosse et al. (1998), (8) Jones et al. (2005), (9) Reiners & Basri (2010), (10) Reiners & Basri (2007), (11) Bonfils et al. (2013), (12) Mamajek et al. (2013).

Table 2
Close-separation ($<4''$) mid M Dwarf Equatorial ($\pm 30^\circ$ decl.) Multiples within 10 pc

Name	R.A. J2000.0	Decl. J2000.0	Parallax ^a (mas)	SpType ^b	M_V ^c (mag)	V^d (mag)	R^d (mag)	I^d (mag)	J^d (mag)	H^d (mag)	K_s^d (mag)	Configuration ^e
GJ 1005AB	00 15 27.7	-16 07 56.0	$168.42 \pm 0.89^{1,2,3,4}$	M4.0VJ ¹	13.75	12.62 ¹	11.46 ¹	10.05 ¹	7.22	6.71	6.39	AB
GJ 2005ABC	00 24 44.2	-27 08 25.2	$129.71 \pm 2.43^{1,5}$	M5.5VJ ²	15.98	15.42 ²	13.71 ²	11.56 ²	9.25	8.55	8.24	ABC
GJ 65AB	01 39 01.5	-17 57 01.8	373.70 ± 2.70^1	M5.5 V ¹	14.92	12.06 ²	10.40 ²	8.34 ²	6.28	5.69	5.34	AB
GJ 105C	02 36 04.7	+06 53 14.8	$138.79 \pm 0.43^{1,6,7}$	M7.0 V ³	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	AC-B
LP 771-096BC ^f	03 01 51.4	-16 35 36.1	$143.81 \pm 2.49^{6,8}$	M3.50VJ ⁴	12.16	11.37 ³	10.13 ³	8.58 ³	7.29	6.77	6.50	A-BC ^f
LHS 1610AB	03 52 41.7	+17 01 05.7	100.88 ± 2.05^8	M4.0VJ ⁴	13.87	13.85 ³	12.42 ³	10.66 ³	8.93	8.38	8.05	AB
GJ 190AB	05 08 35.1	-18 10 19.4	$107.57 \pm 2.08^{1,6}$	M3.5VJ ²	10.48	10.32 ⁴	9.17 ⁴	7.67 ⁴	6.17	5.59	5.31	AB
GJ 234AB	06 29 23.4	-02 48 50.3	$244.44 \pm 0.92^{1,2,9}$	M4.5VJ ⁴	13.06	11.12 ⁴	9.78 ⁴	8.08 ⁴	6.38	5.75	5.49	AB
LTT 17993AB	07 36 25.1	+07 04 43.2	116.60 ± 0.97^8	M4.5VJ ²	13.58	13.25 ³	11.81 ³	9.97 ³	8.18	7.61	7.28	AB
GJ 1116AB	08 58 15.2	+19 45 47.1	191.20 ± 2.50^1	M5.5VJ ¹	15.06	13.65 ⁵	11.97 ⁵	9.83 ⁵	7.79	7.24	6.89	AB
LTT 12352AC	08 58 56.3	+08 28 25.9	147.66 ± 1.98^8	M3.5VJ ⁴	11.77	10.92 ³	9.67 ³	8.05 ³	6.51	5.97	5.69	AC-B
GJ 473AB	12 33 16.3	+09 01 26.0	227.90 ± 4.60^1	M5.5VJ ¹	14.28	12.49 ⁴	10.93 ⁴	8.97 ⁴	7.00	6.40	6.04	AB
GJ 569BC	14 54 29.4	+16 06 08.9	$100.62 \pm 1.28^{1,6}$	M8.5VJ ⁵	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	A-BC
GJ 644ABD	16 55 29.6	-08 19 55.3	$154.96 \pm 0.52^{1,2,5,10}$	M2.5VJ ¹	9.98	9.03 ⁴	7.94 ⁴	6.57 ⁴	5.27	4.78	4.40	ABD-C-GJ 643
GJ 695BC	17 46 25.1	+27 43 01.4	$120.32 \pm 0.16^{1,6}$	M3.5VJ ²	10.26	9.86 ⁶	8.70 ⁶	7.25 ⁶	5.77	5.17	4.95	AD-BC
GJ 1230AC	18 41 09.8	+24 47 14.4	120.90 ± 7.20^1	M4.5VJ ¹	12.57	12.16 ⁵	10.82 ⁵	9.07 ⁵	7.53	6.91	6.62	AC-B
GJ 791.2AB	20 29 48.3	+09 41 20.2	$112.90 \pm 0.30^{1,6}$	M4.5VJ ⁵	13.34	13.08 ⁴	11.73 ⁴	9.98 ⁴	8.23	7.67	7.31	AB
GJ 829AB	21 29 36.8	+17 38 35.9	$149.01 \pm 1.69^{1,6}$	M3.4VJ ¹	11.17	10.30 ⁷	9.15 ⁷	7.70 ⁷	6.25	5.74	5.45	AB
GJ 831AB	21 31 18.6	-09 47 26.5	$128.21 \pm 2.05^{1,6}$	M4.5VJ ¹	12.58	12.04 ⁴	10.74 ⁴	9.04 ⁴	7.32	6.70	6.38	AB
GJ 866ABC	22 38 33.7	-15 17 57.3	289.50 ± 4.40^1	M5.0VJ ¹	14.68	12.37 ²	10.70 ²	8.64 ²	6.55	5.95	5.54	ABC
GJ 867BD	22 38 45.3	-20 36 51.9	$113.37 \pm 1.04^{1,6,11}$	M3.5VJ ⁷	11.75	11.45 ⁴	10.29 ⁴	8.78 ⁴	7.34	6.82	6.49	AC-BD

^a When multiple parallax references are listed, the reported value here is the weighted mean for each system. Parallax references: (1) van Altena et al. (1995), (2) Söderhjelm (1999), (3) Smart et al. (2010), (4) Hershey & Taff (1998), (5) Costa et al. (2005), (6) van Leeuwen (2007), (7) Ianna et al. (1996), (8) Henry et al. (2006), (9) Gatewood et al. (2003), (10) Martin et al. (1998), (11) Davison et al. (2014).

^b J represents a joint spectral type when two or more stars cannot be deconvolved into their individual components. Spectral type references: (1) Henry et al. (1994), (2) Reid et al. (1995), (3) Golimowski et al. (2000), (4) Henry et al. (2006), (5) Kirkpatrick et al. (1991), (6) Davison et al. (2014).

^c Using our photometric measurements and the parallax data, the absolute magnitude errors range from 0.03 to 0.08 mag.

^d We give joint photometry of the close binary stars as these close systems cannot be deconvolved into their individual components. All stars with spectral type denoted by the letter J also have joint photometry. V , R , and I references: (1) Riedel et al. 2010, (2) Bessell (1991), (3) Henry et al. (2006), (4) Bessel (1990), (5) Weis (1996), (6) this paper, (7) Weis (1991). All J , H , K_s magnitudes are from the 2MASS All Sky Catalog of point sources from Skrutskie et al. (2006).

^e System configuration. We indicate widely ($>4''$) separated pairs with a hyphen. There is no spacing between components with separations less than $4''$ (e.g., AB).

^f LP 771-096BC is a distant companion to LP 771-095, which is labeled A under this configuration.

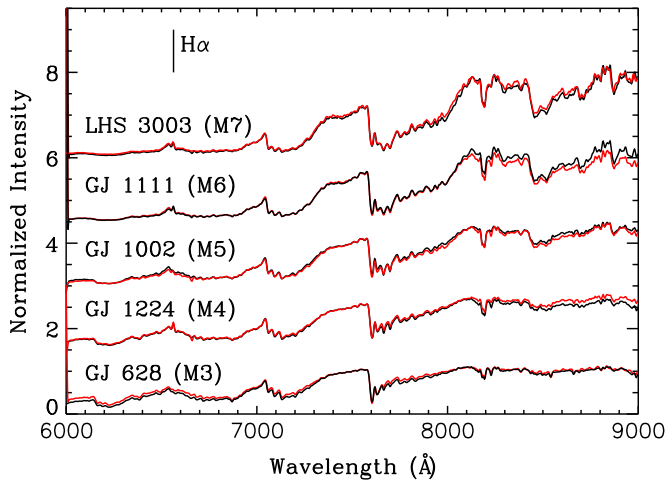


Figure 1. CTIO spectra of five CAESAR stars (black) normalized to 7500 Å. The comparison spectra (red) are from the library of standards from Henry et al. (2002). Small discrepancies at the longest and shortest wavelengths are due to minor errors in the flux calibrations. The vertical line represents the position of H α (6563 Å).

3.2. Results

3.2.1. Spectral Types

To assign a spectral type, the wavelength calibrated spectra are resampled via interpolation onto a fixed 1 Å grid. The H α and telluric features, based on the sky transmission map of Hinkle et al. (2003), are then given a spectral weight of zero to essentially remove these features from our analysis. The spectra are normalized to a value of 1 at 7500 Å. Then, the spectra are compared to the library of observed standards (see Figure 1), and the adopted spectral type is that of the standard that yields the lowest standard deviation of the target spectrum divided by the standard spectrum over the spectral range 6000–9000 Å. The determined spectral types range from M2.5 to M8.0 and are listed in Table 1. The uncertainty in all cases is ± 0.5 spectral subclasses, based on consistency between multiple epochs. Additional details of the spectral type determinations are provided in Riedel et al. (2014).

3.2.2. H α Emission

To assess the amount of chromospheric activity that these stars exhibit, we measure EWs of H α 6563 Å. To do this, we first subtract the linear continuum from the region between 6550 and 6575 Å and then assume that the strongest maximum (or minimum) within this region is the H α line. After determining its location, we integrate both the continuum and spectrum over 22 Å, with the central wavelength corresponding to the H α line to determine the equivalent width. Upon visual inspection of the spectra, we could not reliably determine emission or absorption lines smaller than 0.5 Å. Therefore, we conservatively use this number as the error value on the H α measurements, which are given in Table 3; we adopt the standard convention of denoting emission with a negative sign. If any star exhibits H α EWs less than the typical noise level of 0.5 Å in at least one epoch, we categorized it as an emission-line star. This is denoted with an “e” next to the star’s spectral type in Table 1.

We classify 35/58 of the stars from the CAESAR sample as emission-line stars. We also note that the fraction of

Table 3
Optical Spectroscopic Measurements for Effectively Single Equatorial Mid M Dwarfs within 10 pc

Name	SpType	Date YYYYMMDD	H α EW Å	Na I Index
GJ 1002	M5.0V	19931031	-0.1	1.31
		20041001	0.2	1.36
GJ 54.1	M4.0Ve	19931031	-1.3	1.25
		20041002	-1.1	1.30
LHS 1302	M4.5Ve	20031206	-3.6	1.27
		20061209	-3.4	1.25
GJ 83.1	M4.0Ve	19911113	0.0	1.20
		20041001	-2.1	1.28
LHS 1326	M5.0Ve	20031206	-1.4	1.33
		20061208	-0.8	1.32
LHS 1375	M5.0Ve	20031205	-4.1	1.33
		20061208	-2.9	1.32
GJ 102	M3.5Ve	20031206	-3.1	1.22
GJ 105B	M3.5V	19931029	0.3	1.12
		20041002	0.2	1.18
SO 0253+1652	M7.0V	20031205	0.8	1.37
		20061206	-0.4	1.39
LP 771-095A	M2.5V	20031206	0.0	1.16
GJ 1057	M4.5V	20031206	-0.3	1.26
GJ 1065	M3.5V	20020402	0.0	1.09
		20061207	0.0	1.21
GJ 166C	M4.0Ve	20031206	-5.3	1.21
LP 655-048	M6.0Ve	20040311	-17.8	1.35
LHS 1723	M4.0Ve	20031206	-1.5	1.25
GJ 203	M3.0V	19980208	0.2	1.13
		20061208	0.1	1.15
GJ 213	M3.5V	19911113	0.3	1.12
		20040312	0.0	1.14
G099-049	M3.5Ve	19930314	-3.4	1.20
		20031206	-4.6	1.22
GJ 232	M4.0V	19900122	0.5	1.17
		20040312	0.0	1.22
GJ 1093	M5.0Ve	19930314	-0.9	1.29
		20031206	-2.1	1.33
GJ 273	M3.0V	19900122	0.4	1.11
		20040312	0.1	1.15
GJ 283B	M6.5Ve	19930316	1.7	1.33
		20031205	-0.5	1.40
		20061209	-0.1	1.38
GJ 285	M4.0Ve	19930315	-9.4	1.20
		20041003	-7.7	1.24
GJ 1103	M4.5V	20040312	0.2	1.20
GJ 299	M3.5V	19930315	1.6	1.19
		20050131	0.1	1.24
GJ 300	M3.5V	19930315	0.8	1.20
		20041003	-0.2	1.25
GJ 1111	M6.0Ve	19951202	-4.4	1.40
		20031206	-3.8	1.37
		20090203	-4.0	1.50
		20100301	-7.6	1.43
GJ 1111	M6.0Ve	20100305	-8.0	1.47
LHS 2090	M6.0Ve	20020402	-15.8	1.16
		20061209	-7.9	1.33
LHS 2206	M4.0Ve	20020401	-4.4	1.14
		20061209	-3.3	1.28
LHS 292	M6.5Ve	19901123	-0.8	1.37
		20031207	-2.4	1.43
		20060531	-9.5	1.36
GJ 402	M3.0V	20090203	-0.2	1.26
		20100305	0.0	1.28
		20110517	0.3	1.21
GJ 406	M5.0Ve	19951203	-16.1	1.37
		20030717	-11.6	1.33

Table 3
(Continued)

Name	SpType	Date YYYYMMDD	H α EW \AA	Na I Index
GJ 447	M4.0V	20090505	-8.0	1.38
		19930315	1.0	1.21
		20040608	0.2	1.23
GJ 1154	M4.5Ve	20090505	-0.1	1.26
		20040313	-6.6	1.29
		19930314	-5.6	1.25
GJ 1156	M4.5Ve	20040608	-6.5	1.27
		20040312	0.3	1.16
		20040312	-4.9	1.27
GJ 486	M4.0V	20040312	0.3	1.16
		20040312	-4.9	1.27
		20040312	-4.9	1.27
GJ 493.1	M4.5Ve	20040312	-4.9	1.27
		19930314	0.6	1.18
		20040608	0.5	1.20
GJ 555	M3.5V	19930314	0.6	1.18
		20040608	0.5	1.20
		20040608	0.5	1.20
LHS 3003	M7.0Ve	19930317	-28.5	1.29
		20040311	-7.5	1.40
		20060527	-19.4	1.35
GJ 609	M4.0V	20090505	0.0	1.32
		20110727	2.4	1.00
		20090506	-0.2	1.16
GJ 628	M3.0V	20110727	0.1	1.16
		19930315	0.9	1.13
		20040608	0.0	1.17
GJ 643	M3.0V	20040608	0.0	1.19
		19950812	-11.6	1.44
		20060525	-7.1	1.42
GJ 644C	M7.0Ve	20060526	-10.4	1.40
		20020402	-3.9	1.11
		20060526	-4.9	1.17
GJ 1207	M3.5Ve	20090505	-7.2	1.27
		20090505	-7.2	1.27
		19950814	0.0	1.22
GJ 699	M3.5V	20041001	0.0	1.21
		20060527	0.6	1.17
		20060527	0.6	1.17
GJ 1224	M4.0Ve	19931101	-4.6	1.25
		20040608	-4.3	1.26
		19931101	-0.1	1.26
GJ 1230B	M4.5Ve	20040930	-1.2	1.29
		19931101	-2.4	1.20
		20040929	-2.5	1.25
GJ 729	M3.5Ve	20040929	-2.5	1.25
		19931101	-2.4	1.20
		20040929	-2.5	1.25
GJ 752B	M8.0Ve	19950812	-2.6	1.31
		20030715	-6.1	1.33
		20040930	-6.2	1.29
GJ 1235	M4.0Ve	20060525	-6.9	1.27
		20031011	-0.5	1.24
		20060526	0.4	1.21
GJ 1256	M4.0V	20031011	-0.2	1.27
		20020401	0.5	1.05
		20031207	0.1	1.19
LP 816-060	M3.0V	20031207	0.1	1.19
		20031012	-5.8	1.20
		20031207	-3.7	1.30
G188-038	M3.5Ve	20060525	-3.8	1.31
		20060531	-4.3	1.27
		20041002	-6.5	1.24
LHS 3799	M4.5Ve	20041002	-6.5	1.24
		20060525	-4.0	1.21
		20090726	-3.3	1.23
LP 876-010	M4.0Ve	19931031	-6.2	1.17
		20041002	-5.4	1.17
		20110517	-6.9	1.17
GJ 896A	M3.5Ve	19931031	-4.9	1.20
		20041002	-5.4	1.17
		20110517	-6.9	1.17
GJ 896B	M4.0Ve	19931031	-4.9	1.20
		20110517	-6.6	1.17
		20110517	-6.6	1.17
GJ 1286	M5.0Ve	19931031	-0.7	1.32
		20041001	-0.7	1.35
		20041001	-0.7	1.35

emission-line stars increases with later spectral type. 37% of the 35 stars with spectral types M4 or earlier are emission-line stars, whereas 100% of the 9 stars with spectral type M6

or later are emission-line stars. Our fraction of early M dwarfs with emission is comparable to that of Reiners et al. (2012), who find 41% of the 115 stars of type M3–M4.5 to be active emission-line stars. Likewise, Gizis et al. (2000) report an increase in emission-line stars with lower mass and finds that 100% of the M7 stars are emission-line stars. He also notes that this trend breaks down past M7 and that the fraction of later type stars that show chromospheric activity is significantly less.

3.2.3. Surface Gravity Indices

To assess the surface gravity of these stars as a possible tracer of their evolutionary states, the gravity-sensitive Na I doublet (defined in Lyo et al. 2004) is measured; this feature is well known to be weak in giants and strong in dwarfs (e.g., Allers et al. 2007; Schlieder et al. 2012). For the Na I doublet index, we use the wavelength region between 8148 and 8200 \AA . We conservatively estimate our index error to be 0.05; this value is the average difference value of our measured Na I doublet indices for all of our stars with more than one epoch. These values are given in Table 3. While these indices derived from the low-resolution spectra are a good indicator of the evolutionary state of the star, high-resolution spectra are needed to ascertain a more quantitative measure of the surface gravity. Also, we do caution that these lines can be affected by metallicity and stellar activity; metal-poor stars and chromospherically active stars will have systematically lower EWs (e.g., Hawley et al. 1999).

All of the stars in the ensemble sample exhibit average Na I doublet indices in a typical range for main sequence stars (>1.1 ; Lyo et al. 2004; Allers et al. 2007); we therefore classify all 58 CAESAR stars as being on the main sequence. This is denoted by adding a “V” to the spectral type listed in Table 1.

4. OPTICAL PHOTOMETRY

Prior to our measurements, 4 of the 58 stars from the CAESAR sample did not have complete sets of V , R , and I photometry. The remaining stars had photometric measurements presented in eight different publications. Therefore, to establish a uniform, homogenous set of photometric measurements for the ensemble sample of 58 stars, we obtained optical photometric observations using the 0.9 m telescope at CTIO. For all of our photometry frames, we use the center 1024×1024 pixels on the Tektronix 2048 \times 2048 CCD. The CCD chip has a plate scale of $0''.401 \text{ pixel}^{-1}$, which gives a field of view (FOV) of 6.8 by 6.8 arcmin (Jao et al. 2003). All frames were collected at an airmass less than 2 and with the target star having a signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) > 100 . We use 10 or more standard stars from Landolt (1992, 2007) and Graham (1982) to create extinction curves each night, and transformation equations to obtain V , R , and I photometry for all our target stars and reference stars used for the astrometric measurements described in Section 7.2. During the course of the observations, we used two different V filters for photometry. Jao et al. (2011) demonstrate that both V filters give effectively identical V -band photometry for standard stars; therefore it is suitable for us to combine photometry from the two filters. For additional details on the photometric reduction and its associated errors, see Jao et al. (2005) and Winters et al. (2011).

The V , R , I photometry and the number of nights on which observations were made are reported in Table 1. Errors at V , R , and I are 0.02–0.03 mag. A comparison of five stars (GJ 300, GJ 406, GJ 555, GJ 628, and GJ 729) with Bessel (1990) indicates that the two data sets are consistent to 0.04 mag. Using our photometric measurements and the parallax data given in Table 1, the absolute magnitude errors range from 0.03 to 0.08 mag.

5. A COMPANION SEARCH OF A 12 STAR SUBSET

We present results of a 3D companion search on a subsample of 12 CAESAR stars, including G099-049, GJ 300, GJ 406, GJ 555, GJ 628, GJ 729, GJ 1002, GJ 1065, GJ 1224, GJ 1286, LHS 1723, and LHS 3799, which are the most data-rich in our sample. The remaining stars in the ensemble sample will be presented in a subsequent paper. These 12 stars have astrometry baselines ranging from 9 to over 13 yr and have at least five infrared RV measurements spanning from almost 2 weeks to 5 yr. The spectral classes of these stars range from M3.0 to M5.0.

6. HIGH-DISPERSION INFRARED SPECTROSCOPY

6.1. Observations

All infrared spectroscopic observations were obtained using CSHELL (Tokunaga et al. 1990; Greene et al. 1993) located on the 3 m telescope at NASA’s Infrared Telescope Facility. CSHELL is a long-slit echelle spectrograph that uses a circular variable filter to isolate a single order onto a 256×256 InSb detector. Spectra are centered at 2.298 microns (vacuum) and cover an approximately 50 Å window. Telluric methane absorption features from the Earth’s atmosphere that are superimposed on the photospheric ^{12}CO R branch lines at 2.3 microns are used as an absolute wavelength reference (e.g., Blake et al. 2010; Bailey et al. 2012). The design resolving power is 100,000 per pixel. We use CSHELL in the high-resolution mode ($0\prime.5$ slit = 2.5 pixels), which yields a predicted spectral resolving power of $R \sim 40,000$. The measured resolving power determined from the model fits to telluric absorption features (described later) is $\sim 57,000$. This number is significantly higher than the predicted resolving power for CSHELL using the $0\prime.5$ slit. We note this discrepancy because CSHELL has an adjustable slit; it may be that the slit is smaller than the designed $0\prime.5$. Crockett et al. (2011) and Prato et al. (2008) also report a higher than predicted spectral resolving power ($R \sim 46,000$) for CSHELL in high-resolution mode. Also, we note that a similar effect of determining a higher spectral resolving power for Keck is found in Bailey et al. (2012), and may be a feature of the analysis code.

Each night, two spectra of a given star were obtained in succession at two different positions along the slit, separated by $10\prime$. Hereafter, we refer to these two positions as nod A and nod B. Observations were obtained between 2008 November and 2014 January.

Our exposure times ranged from 180 to 1200 s per nod position, and were set to yield S/Ns of 125 per pixel (or optimally, a combined S/N of 175+) for most of our targets. For the faintest 3 stars ($K_s > 8.0$) in our sample of 12 stars (GJ 1065, GJ 1224, GJ 1286), a S/N of 125 per pixel was not achieved, as the maximum exposure time is set to 1200 s to limit cosmic ray events and the dark current.

At the beginning of each night, we obtained a minimum of 30 flat and 30 dark images each with an integration time of 10 s. Also, on 2009 November 14, we collected an additional 30 flat and 30 dark images with an integration time of 20 s, which were used in creating the bad pixel mask described in Section 6.2. Most nights we also observed bright stars of spectral type early A, as these stars exhibit no intrinsic absorption or emission lines in this wavelength region and therefore can be used to identify telluric features. These telluric standards are used to characterize the instrumental profile and wavelength solution. When first collecting the data, we did not realize how sensitive our final RV measurements were to the initial solutions for the instrumental profile and wavelength solution obtained from the telluric standards. After reducing part of the data, we determined that A star observations that are obtained nightly yield the best precision. In a few cases, we only obtained a few A star observations per run leaving us with four nights that contain no A star observations. The four nights the telluric standards were not observed are marked in Table 4 by an asterisk next to the date.

We aimed to observe each target at least four nights within a single observing run (~ 1 – 3 weeks) in order to search for companions with orbital periods of less than a week. Because of inclement weather we were not able to achieve this cadence for all targets. On subsequent runs, we re-observed our targets at least once to search for companions with longer orbital periods, except for GJ 1065. For the sample of 12 stars studied here, we obtained between 5 and 12 RV epochs for each star, spanning a temporal baseline between 13 and 1884 days (see Table 4).

6.2. Image Reduction and Spectral Extraction

We subtracted each nodded pair of images from one another to remove sky emission, dark current, and detector bias assuming that changes in the detector or spectrograph properties were negligible over the timescale when the nodded pair of images were obtained. After completing the nod-subtraction, we corrected each image for flat fielding. Corrections for flat fielding were performed by generating a nightly master flat field image from all flat field images obtained on a particular night. The master flat field images were created by first subtracting the median dark image of the same exposure time from each of the flat field images. Then, each flat field image was normalized to the central 15% of the array, which was the brightest section of the array and the least affected by deviant pixels. After normalizing the image, all images were median combined.

We then applied a bad pixel mask to our spectra to remove dead and hot pixels from the data. To identify dead pixels, we located any pixel five times below the standard deviation of the median pixel value of the master flat field array. To locate hot pixels, we subtracted two times the count value of the 10 s exposure master flat field image from the 20 s exposure master flat field image, and then normalized this number to the 20 s exposure master flat field. Because these pixels should increase linearly with time and therefore have the same values, we identified any pixel with values greater than three times the standard deviation of this median pixel value of the difference image as being a hot pixel. All deviant pixels identified from the bad pixel mask are assigned interpolated values using the neighboring pixels.

Table 4
Radial Velocity Measurements

Name	HJD 2,400,000	Radial Velocity (m s ⁻¹)	S/N
G099-049	54787.56 ^a	30171 ± 92	200
	54788.44	30077 ± 96	258
	54790.51 ^a	30171 ± 87	254
	54791.47 ^a	30132 ± 118	202
	55146.52	30244 ± 122	119
	55149.50	30352 ± 105	140
	55151.53	30317 ± 102	215
	55154.56	30057 ± 90	208
	55638.31	30144 ± 95	176
	55641.23	30130 ± 104	145
	55642.27	30294 ± 86	245
GJ 300	54790.60 ^a	9064 ± 84	199
	54791.65 ^a	9198 ± 97	103
	54963.27	8882 ± 85	178
	54964.29	9237 ± 109	89
	55151.64	8922 ± 96	118
	55154.63	9061 ± 83	184
	55317.25	9047 ± 83	190
	55321.30	8994 ± 81	181
	55644.36	9042 ± 84	176
	56671.60	8981 ± 85	154
GJ 406	54962.33	19429 ± 81	212
	54963.38	19415 ± 83	193
	54964.38	19332 ± 89	148
	55320.41	19759 ± 81	199
	55321.40	19653 ± 80	204
	55323.41	19548 ± 84	166
	55330.33	19462 ± 94	87
	55331.30	19465 ± 80	239
	55335.34	19546 ± 80	162
	55637.46	19731 ± 80	257
	55643.32	19625 ± 79	180
	55645.39	19489 ± 80	273
GJ 555	54959.43	-1417 ± 84	214
	54960.44	-1364 ± 98	116
	54961.41	-1365 ± 82	197
	54962.44	-1433 ± 98	238
	54963.47	-1481 ± 99	124
	54964.50	-1376 ± 84	166
	55320.52	-1467 ± 81	199
	55355.44	-1389 ± 78	226
GJ 628	54959.40	-20969 ± 89	139
	54960.46	-21135 ± 96	132
	54962.46	-21058 ± 80	168
	54963.47	-21100 ± 89	181
	54964.51	-20980 ± 91	149
	55320.53	-21257 ± 87	178
	55331.36	-21205 ± 77	258
	55335.45	-21180 ± 83	180
	56174.24	-21095 ± 79	229
GJ 729	54959.56	-10109 ± 84	242
	54960.55	-10178 ± 82	257
	54961.54	-10236 ± 97	198
	54962.63	-10127 ± 109	275
	55335.51	-10419 ± 81	274
	55392.46 ^a	-10397 ± 81	228
GJ 1002	54787.41 ^a	-39770 ± 85	132
	54788.35	-39886 ± 101	162
	54790.37 ^a	-39768 ± 90	207

Table 4
(Continued)

Name	HJD 2,400,000	Radial Velocity (m s ⁻¹)	S/N
	55146.44	-39912 ± 95	177
	55150.38	-39976 ± 86	113
	55151.39	-39913 ± 84	150
GJ 1065	56259.53 ^a	-9118 ± 87	162
	56260.55	-8984 ± 92	135
	56270.46	-9163 ± 95	145
	56271.43	-9122 ± 137	82
	56272.45	-9110 ± 93	151
GJ 1224	54961.51	-32425 ± 127	84
	54962.52	-32609 ± 135	122
	54963.52	-32811 ± 96	163
	54964.59	-32559 ± 164	100
	55320.56	-32560 ± 90	157
	55321.52	-32704 ± 90	160
	55335.49	-32789 ± 87	175
GJ 1286	54787.37 ^a	-40687 ± 125	74
	55146.37	-40871 ± 100	126
	55149.29	-40897 ± 126	76
	55151.36	-40850 ± 98	109
	55154.40	-40714 ± 100	138
LHS 1723	54787.51 ^a	42533 ± 94	200
	54788.40	42559 ± 93	149
	54790.47 ^a	42497 ± 987	188
	55149.47	42327 ± 90	157
	55151.50	42377 ± 86	180
	55154.49	42287 ± 82	217
LHS 3799	54790.28 ^a	-1643 ± 104	158
	55146.32	-1568 ± 92	129
	55149.24	-1612 ± 83	188
	55150.27	-1651 ± 85	173
	55151.27	-1596 ± 90	143
	55392.58	-1779 ± 88	193

^a No telluric standards were observed on this night.

We optimally extracted each spectrum following the procedures in Horne (1986) as implemented for nod-subtracted spectra in Bailey et al. (2012). The code used to analyze the data in this work is a modified version of that described in Bailey et al. (2012), tuned to work for CSHELL data. The advantage of optimally extracting spectra over the standard extraction is that the optimal extraction minimizes the noisy contribution of the profile wings and eliminates and/or mitigates noise features within the spectral profile caused by cosmic rays and deviant pixels not excluded with the bad pixel mask.

To obtain an optimally extracted spectrum, we summed the pixels from the nod-subtracted images over the cross-dispersion to give the standard spectrum. We then fitted a second-order polynomial to map the curvature of the order on the detector. Next, we fitted the spectral profile of the standard spectrum with a Gaussian to model our spatial profiles at each pixel step (column) along the order parallel to the dispersion direction of the nod-subtracted spectral image. From this, the variance of the profile was determined. Then, we summed the pixels weighted by the variance image of the spectrum's spatial

profile to create our two-dimensional optimally extracted spectrum. For low S/N data, we implemented a clipping routine that interpolates over a pixel that is more than 5σ above or below the running average of the five pixels next to the pixel in question to remove any remaining deviant features.

To obtain an estimate of the S/N for each spectrum, we use a simplified version of the CCD equation from Mortara & Fowler (1981) modified to account for the noise introduced by subtracting pairs of images. When performing a nod pair subtraction we simultaneously remove the sky background, dark current, and bias. Therefore, we cannot distinguish between these values and refer to them collectively as the uncertainty in background. Executing a pair subtraction means that we have to deal with this uncertainty in the background twice and the read noise associated with each of those background estimates. In most cases, the background of the first image (Image A) should equal (within the uncertainty) the background of the second image (Image B). Therefore, we simply double the noise contribution from the background and the read noise. The equation to calculate the S/N per pixel is as follows:

$$S/N = \frac{S_e}{\sqrt{S_e + 2 \cdot n(B_e + R_e^2)}},$$

where S_e is the total number of counts per integrated column of a spectrum extracted from a nod-subtracted image in electrons, n is the number of pixels in the spatial direction that are integrated over during the extraction, B_e is the integrated background counts of the corresponding sky image before image subtraction is performed, in electrons per pixel, and R_e^2 is the read noise set to 30 electrons/pixel from Greene et al. (1993).

Following the above description, we determine the S/N for each integrated pixel of the spectrum and set the final S/N for the spectrum to be the mean of these values. The S/Ns are then added in quadrature for the nod A and nod B measurements to give a combined S/N value.

Because of occasional poor weather conditions leading to low S/N, not all observations are suitable for precision RV analysis. We require the S/N of the individual spectrum in the nod pair to be greater than 50 and the reduced χ^2 estimate of our modeling prescription (Section 6.3) to be below 3.5.

6.3. Method to Determine Spectral Properties

We fit each observation to high-resolution spectral models that are convolved to the resolution of CSHELL. Each model spectrum is formed by combining a synthetic stellar spectrum and an empirical telluric spectrum. The synthetic stellar spectra are created from NextGen models (Hauschildt et al. 1999). The telluric model spectra are extracted from observations of the Sun from an ultrahigh resolution KPNO/FTS telluric spectrum (Livingston & Wallace 1991). We adopt the stellar template closest in temperature to our star using the assigned spectral types and the temperature scale of Kraus & Hillenbrand (2007). We fix the surface gravity $\log(g)$ to 4.8 dex (cgs) for all of our stars, which is consistent with measurements assembled in Mentuch et al. (2008) and Hillenbrand & White (2004) for field M dwarfs.

The model spectrum consists of 19 free parameters to fit. The linear limb darkening coefficient is set to 0.6 for all stars, which is appropriate for cool stars at infrared wavelengths

(Claret 2000). Three of the parameters make up a quadratic polynomial that characterizes the wavelength solution. Nine of the parameters are Gaussians used to model the line spread function (LSF) of the spectrum; we assume that the LSF along the order is constant. The remaining six parameters are the depth of the telluric features, the depth of the stellar features, the projected rotational velocity ($v \sin i$), the RV, a normalization constant, and a linear normalization term.

We fit the empirical telluric spectrum to our rapidly rotating A star for each night we procured observations of A stars. From this measurement, we estimate the wavelength solution and the instrumental profile. The instrumental profile is solved for by interpolating the input spectrum onto a log-linear wavelength grid and convolving it with a Gaussian kernel set to the spectral resolution of the instrument determined by fitting the telluric spectrum. We tested both single and multiple Gaussian functions to obtain the instrumental profile of CSHELL. We favor multiple Gaussians to fit the instrumental profile, as we had better agreement between the RV estimates from the AB nod pairs and smaller RV dispersions overall. The Gaussian kernel is composed of one central Gaussian and four satellite Gaussians on each side, closely following the technique described in Valenti et al. (1995). We set the positions of the centers of the Gaussians and the widths of the satellite Gaussians so that the curves barely overlap. The amplitude of the central Gaussian is constrained by the normalization factor, while the width of the central Gaussian is allowed to vary. The amplitudes of the satellite Gaussians are allowed to vary. Optimization of these values is accomplished by minimizing the variance weighted reduced chi-squared as described in Bailey et al. (2012) to best reproduce the observed spectrum. In the cases when no A stars were observed on a night, we use the mean values determined on nights close to the night when A stars were observed.

After fitting the telluric spectrum, the nine parameters used to characterize the LSF are kept constant for all remaining fits. We use an iterative process where we fit the target spectrum to the combined synthetic stellar model and empirical telluric model. On the first iteration, we fit the wavelength solution, the depth of the telluric spectrum, the RV, the normalization constant, and the linear normalization term. With an improved guess on our second iteration, we allow the $v \sin i$, the depth of the telluric model, the depth of spectral model, and the two normalization constants to fluctuate. The $v \sin i$ is determined following the description provided in Gray (2005). We adopt the average $v \sin i$ value from this iteration for all epochs as the $v \sin i$ value for the star. Finally, we repeat the first iterative process allowing the wavelength solution, the depth of the telluric spectrum, the RV, the normalization constant, and the linear normalization term to vary in order to determine the absolute RV of the star. Computationally, the optimization of the model spectrum is completed using AMOEBA, which is a routine used for minimization of multiple variables using the downhill simplex method of Nelder & Mead (1965). We note that AMOEBA is very sensitive to initial guesses and is given user specified ranges to restrict the answers to physically reasonable solutions. An example of an optimally extracted spectrum fit to our telluric and stellar models is shown in Figure 2.

Rather than use the full 256 pixels along the order, the modeling analysis is restricted to pixels between 10 and 245, which corresponds to a small continuum area on the spectra.

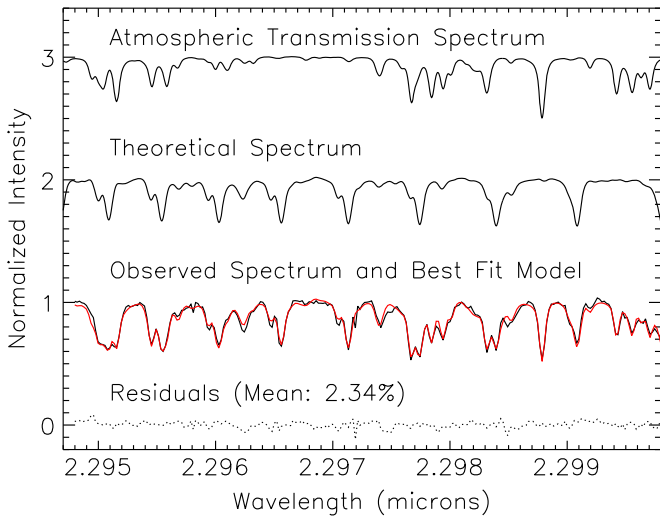


Figure 2. Spectral modeling of GJ 300. Spectra are modeled by combining a telluric spectrum (top spectrum) with a synthetic stellar spectrum (second spectrum); the telluric spectrum provides an absolute wavelength reference. The CSHELL spectra of GJ 300 are shown (black) in comparison with the best fit (red; third spectrum). The residuals of the fit are shown (bottom spectrum).

These boundaries are set to prevent strong absorption features from moving in and out of the analysis region on different epochs, because of different barycentric corrections. Partial features that are cut off by the edge of the chip can cause our RV value to change on the order of 100 m s^{-1} . Using the restricted pixel range, our average precision improved by 27% for the 12 stars analyzed here.

6.4. Spectroscopic Results

The RV results of the spectroscopic modeling are given in Table 4 with objects listed alphabetically. Multiple RV measurements on a single night are averaged to provide a single epoch value. All RV measurements are corrected to the solar system barycenter using a correction prescription accurate to $\sim 1 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ (G. Basri 2015, private communication).

Under the assumption that the stars do not have companions, the observed dispersion is thought to be caused by a combination of theoretical photon noise error, intrinsic stellar error, and instrumental error ($\sigma_{\text{obs}}^2 = \sigma_{\text{photon}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{stellar}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{instr}}^2$). The theoretical error for each spectrum is calculated based on the prescription by Butler et al. (1996). For our 12 stars, the average theoretical photon noise error is 57 m s^{-1} , with a standard deviation of 14 m s^{-1} . The stellar error is assumed to be zero, as we are observing a field population of slowly rotating M dwarfs. This is supported by results of Bonfils et al. (2013) showing that the observed RV dispersions based on optical spectra for nine of the stars in this subsample are below 10 m s^{-1} . We solve the equation above to determine the instrumental error ($\sigma_{\text{instr}}^2 = \sigma_{\text{obs}}^2 - \sigma_{\text{photon}}^2$) for each star, in which the observed dispersion is the standard deviation of the nightly RV measurements and the theoretical photon error for each star is the average of the nightly theoretical photon errors. The average instrumental error for this subset is 73 m s^{-1} , with a standard deviation of 42 m s^{-1} . We adopt this number as the instrumental error for all targets in our subsample. In Table 4, we report the final error assigned to each measurement, which is calculated as the instrumental error added in quadrature with the theoretical photon noise error.

In Table 5, we summarize the infrared spectroscopic results, including the absolute RV, the number of epochs, the time span of observations, the standard deviation of the RV measurements, and the $v \sin i$ value and its uncertainty. The absolute RV is the mean of the RV measurements from different nights. We note that systematic uncertainties in the adopted synthetic template ($\log(g)$, T_{eff}) and the wavelength region used in the fit can cause RV shifts of $\sim 100 \text{ m s}^{-1}$. Therefore, we set the uncertainty of the absolute RV measurements to be 100 m s^{-1} for all 12 stars. All of our stars have previous absolute RV measurements and those measurements are less than 3σ from our measurements (Gizis et al. 2002; Nidever et al. 2002).

The $v \sin i$ value is the average of the nightly best fit $v \sin i$ measurements. The error on the $v \sin i$ value is calculated as the standard deviation of the best fit nightly $v \sin i$ measurements. We do caution that the spectral resolving power of CSHELL is not high enough to fully resolve the lines of the slowest rotators. Line broadening becomes measurable for $v \sin i$ values in excess of 3 km s^{-1} , therefore we set this value as our $v \sin i$ detection limit. This detection threshold is in line with those reported by Reiners et al. (2012) of 3 km s^{-1} and Browning et al. (2010) of 2.5 km s^{-1} for similar resolution spectra ($R = 45,000\text{--}48,000$). We detect rotational broadening above our detection threshold for 2 stars, G099-049 and GJ 729, out of the 12. The previous $v \sin i$ value for G099-049 of $7.4 \pm 0.8 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ by Delfosse et al. (1998) is within 2σ of our measurement of $5.8 \pm 0.3 \text{ km s}^{-1}$. Likewise, the previous $v \sin i$ value for GJ 729 of $4.0 \pm 0.3 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ by Browning et al. (2010) is within 0.7σ of our measurement of $3.8 \pm 0.6 \text{ km s}^{-1}$.

Our observed dispersions for these 12 stars range from 47 to 139 m s^{-1} . Our average observed dispersion is 99 m s^{-1} , with a standard deviation of 27 m s^{-1} . Figure 3 shows the RV measurements for all epochs for each of the target stars. The median RV error for high S/N spectra of the 10 slowly rotating stars ($v \sin i < 3.0 \text{ km s}^{-1}$) is 88 m s^{-1} . This is dominated by the instrumental error (73 m s^{-1}), which suggests a limiting precision of $\sim 90 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ for high S/N slowly rotating mid to late M dwarfs. We note that some of the instrumental uncertainty could be a consequence of our modeling prescription; a more sophisticated approach may yield better results. We also note that a precision of 58 m s^{-1} has been reported for multiple epoch measurements of the M0 star GJ 281 using CSHELL (Crockett et al. 2011). These precisions are nevertheless considerably better than the design specs for CSHELL (Tokunaga et al. 1990; Greene et al. 1993), especially considering the small wavelength coverage, and are credited to the talents of the instrument team.

7. ASTROMETRY

7.1. Observations

All optical astrometric observations were made using the 0.9 m telescope at CTIO. The astrometry program began as an NOAO Surveys Program in 1999 August and continued from 2003 February as part of the SMARTS (Small and Moderate Aperture Research Telescope System) Consortium. Stars have been intermittently added to the observing list since 1999 and stars discussed here continue to be observed. The Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory Parallax Investigation (CTIOPI) program was originally designed to measure accurate parallaxes of nearby stars. We are now using the same data and techniques to look for perturbations that remain in our

Table 5
Spectroscopic Results

Name	Model T_{eff} (K)	Abs. RV ^a (m s ⁻¹)	N (# nights)	Δ time (days)	σ_{RV} (m s ⁻¹)	$v \sin i^b$ (km s ⁻¹)
G099-049	3200	30190	11	855	98	5.8 ± 0.3
GJ 300	3200	9043	10	1881	110	0.9 ± 0.7 ¹
GJ 406	3000	19537	12	638	132	1.6 ± 0.7 ¹
GJ 555	3200	-1413	8	396	47	0.6 ± 0.7 ¹
GJ 628	3000	-21109	9	1215	98	1.2 ± 0.7 ¹
GJ 729	3200	-10244	6	433	125	3.8 ± 0.6
GJ 1002	3000	-39871	6	368	84	1.4 ± 0.3 ¹
GJ 1065	3200	-9099	5	13	68	1.0 ± 0.8 ¹
GJ 1224	3000	-32673	7	374	139	1.4 ± 0.4 ¹
GJ 1286	3000	-40803	5	367	96	0.7 ± 0.9 ¹
LHS 1723	3000	42430	6	367	115	1.0 ± 0.8 ¹
LHS 3799	3000	-1641	6	602	74	1.5 ± 0.5 ¹

^a The error on the absolute RV measurements is estimated to be ~ 100 m s⁻¹, based on systematic uncertainties.

^b The $v \sin i$ values reported are the values used in the best-fit model. Since values below 3 km s⁻¹ cannot be confidently measured at our resolution, we adopt a $v \sin i$ upper limit value of 3 km s⁻¹ for these stars.

astrometric signal after solving for the parallactic motion and the proper motion of our targets. The presence of a periodic perturbation in our data might signify that our star is orbiting around a common center of mass with an unseen companion. To do this, we use the same instrumental setup as that used for the photometry frames. We observe each star in one of the V , R , or I filters. Stars are observed through the filter that gives the strongest reference field while not compromising the counts of the target star (the filter and number of reference stars used are given in Table 6). Strong reference fields that give the most precise parallax measurement include 5–12 reference stars that are bright (peak counts greater than 1000), close on the chip to the target star, and in a configuration that surrounds the target. We require all stars used as reference stars to have a minimum of 100 counts. Our reduction routine accounts for plate scaling and rotation effects, but ignores higher-order terms (astigmatism, coma, chromatic aberration; see Jao et al. 2005).

Exposure times are set such that the target star or in some cases a very close bright reference star does not saturate. Our maximum exposure time is 600 s. We aim to obtain exposure times of at least 30 s for every star, although this is not always possible for our brightest stars.

Frames are only collected under seeing conditions better than $2''/4$, determined by the FWHM of the stars in the field to be used in our reduction. Also, the target star and its reference stars must have an ellipticity less than 20% in order to determine the centroid of the stars with the most accuracy and to eliminate frames with possible tracking/guiding errors. The guider is typically used for any exposure times longer than 300 s.

Of the 12 stars discussed here, 8 are observed astrometrically with the V filter. During the course of observations, the first V filter was cracked and replaced by another V filter. The use of the second V filter from 2005 February to 2009 July causes a few milliarcseconds (mas) offset in astrometric residuals of known singles from other techniques. In 2009 July, we switched back to the original V filter, as the minor crack on the filter edge does not affect the data acquired on our central quarter region of the CCD. Using data from both filters gives the same parallax measurement, but with slightly higher errors (Subasavage et al. 2009; Riedel et al. 2010), and the average

residual deviation for the stars is still less than 4 mas for our 12 stars (see Section 7.3). Therefore, we choose to use data obtained in both filters to maximize the time coverage.

7.2. Astrometric Reductions

We correct all centroids of reference stars and the target star for differential chromatic refraction (DCR; Jao et al. 2005). We measure accurate positions using the SExtractor Centroiding algorithm from Bertin & Arnouts (1996) and use the Gaussfit program (Jefferys et al. 1987) to simultaneously solve for the parallax relative to the reference stars and proper motion on all available data (for more details see Jao et al. 2005). If after running our Gaussfit program, reference stars are found to have proper motions greater than $0''.05 \text{ yr}^{-1}$ or a parallax greater than 5 mas based on photometric parallaxes, then those stars are rejected as reference stars. To obtain the absolute parallax of our target star, we must correct for the parallactic motion of the reference stars as these stars are not infinitely far away. We use photometric parallaxes and accurate V , R , and I photometry described in Section 4 to correct our relative parallax to the absolute parallax value (Jao et al. 2005). All the frames are used to fit the parallactic orbit to the star. However, only nights with two or more good images are used in order to calculate the astrometric signal that remains after correcting for the parallactic motion and proper motion of our target.

7.3. Astrometric Results

In Table 6, we list the number of seasons the target has been observed, the number of parallax frames, the start and end dates of observations, the time duration of the observations, the number of reference stars, the relative parallax (π rel), the correction to the absolute parallax (π corr), the absolute parallax (π abs), the proper motion amplitude (μ), the proper motion position angle (P.A.), and the tangential velocity (v_{tan}) for the 12 targets in our subsample. We do note that the parallax correction to absolute for GJ 628 was much larger (4.8σ) than typical. We expect that this is a consequence of the reference stars being highly reddened, which will bias distance estimates. Rather than using this number, we use the average of the corrections to absolute from 221 stars previously published

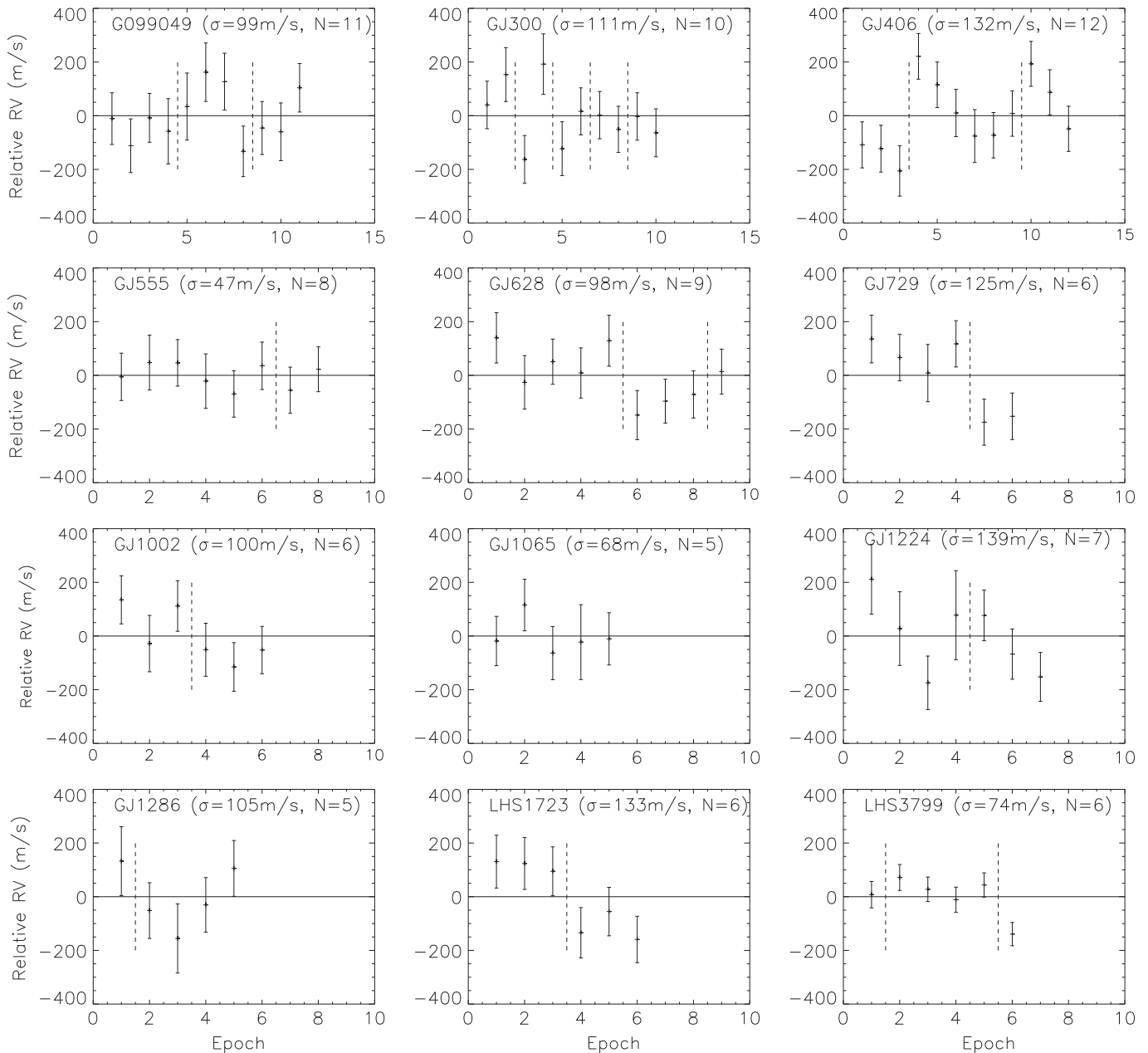


Figure 3. Nightly averaged relative radial velocity measurements plotted by epoch (see Table 4 for a list of JD). Vertical dotted lines are used to indicate long time spans between different observing runs ($\sim 1\text{--}3$ weeks). After completing periodogram tests on this RV data to search for periodicity, we find no indication of companions around these stars.

using the CTIOPI pipeline (Jao et al. 2005, 2011; Henry et al. 2006; Gizis et al. 2007; Subasavage et al. 2009; Riedel et al. 2010, 2011; von Braun et al. 2011).

All of our measured parallaxes are within 3σ of the weighted average of previously published values except GJ 300. Our parallax value of GJ 300 supersedes that in Henry et al. (2006), because we now have roughly twice as many frames over twice the time span, and now use an improved centroiding technique.

After solving for the parallactic and proper motions, the average residual deviations for all 12 stars is 2.74 mas in right ascension (R.A.) and is 3.36 mas in declination (decl.). The average residual deviations range from 0.86 to 4.85 mas in R.A. and from 1.54 to 5.53 mas in decl. (see Table 7). Residual deviations are calculated by taking the standard deviation of

the absolute values of nightly mean positions. We also report the statistical uncertainty (henceforth referred to as the mean error) for each star, which ranges from 2.39 to 6.18 mas in R.A. and from 2.65 to 6.88 mas in decl. We calculate the error on a single night by taking the standard deviation of the offsets from zero for the frames, typically five, taken on each star during a night. Then, we calculate the mean error for the star by taking the average of all the nightly errors. The mean errors for both R.A. and decl. are also listed Table 7. On average, our errors are 1.5 times larger than residual deviations. We take this as an indication that we are slightly overestimating our errors. For all 12 stars, the astrometric signals that remain after correcting for the parallactic and proper motions are plotted over time in Figure 4, split into R.A. and decl.

Table 6
Astrometric Results

Name	R.A. J2000.0	Decl. J2000.0	Filter	N_{sea}^a	N_{fm}	Coverage ^b	Years ^b	N_{REF}	π (rel) (mas)	π (corr) (mas)	π (abs) (mas)	μ (mas yr ⁻¹)	P.A. (deg)	V_{tan} (km s ⁻¹)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)
G099-049	06 00 03.52	+02 42 23.6	<i>V</i>	14 s	374	1999.91–2012.94	13.04	4	191.08 ± 0.97	2.52 ± 1.57	193.60 ± 1.85	307.6 ± 0.3	97.1 ± 0.10	7.5
GJ 300	08 12 40.88	-21 33 06.8	<i>V</i>	14 s	374	1999.91–2012.95	13.05	8	121.37 ± 0.42	1.27 ± 0.26	122.64 ± 0.49	698.6 ± 0.1	178.6 ± 0.01	27.0
GJ 406	10 56 28.91	+07 00 53.2	<i>R</i>	12 s	139	2000.23–2012.27	12.04	6	413.70 ± 1.61	1.46 ± 0.17	415.16 ± 1.62	4694.5 ± 0.5	236.2 ± 0.01	53.6
GJ 555	14 34 16.82	-12 31 10.3	<i>V</i>	13 s	193	2000.14–2012.26	12.12	6	161.15 ± 1.45	0.58 ± 0.22	161.73 ± 1.47	682.5 ± 0.4	331.0 ± 0.07	20.0
GJ 628	16 30 18.07	-12 39 45.4	<i>V</i>	10 s	141	2003.51–2012.58	9.07	5	229.10 ± 2.23	1.43 ± 0.17	230.53 ± 2.24	1191.5 ± 0.9	185.5 ± 0.07	24.7
GJ 729	18 49 49.37	-23 50 10.4	<i>V</i>	11 s	124	1999.62–2012.75	13.13	7	335.64 ± 1.30	3.95 ± 0.99	339.59 ± 1.63	666.3 ± 0.4	106.8 ± 0.05	9.3
GJ 1002	00 06 43.19	-07 32 17.0	<i>R</i>	9 s	64	2003.77–2012.87	9.10	4	205.09 ± 3.09	2.09 ± 0.16	207.18 ± 3.09	2034.5 ± 0.9	203.8 ± 0.05	46.5
GJ 1065	03 50 44.29	-06 05 41.7	<i>V</i>	10 s	86	2003.95–2012.95	9.00	5	99.98 ± 1.91	1.65 ± 0.24	101.63 ± 1.93	1444.8 ± 0.7	198.9 ± 0.05	67.4
GJ 1224	18 07 32.85	-15 57 47.0	<i>I</i>	10 s	170	2003.52–2012.52	9.00	7	125.04 ± 0.92	1.50 ± 0.50	126.54 ± 1.05	702.3 ± 0.4	241.0 ± 0.06	26.1
GJ 1286	23 35 10.47	-02 23 20.8	<i>I</i>	10 s	135	2003.52–2012.88	9.36	5	139.19 ± 1.07	2.28 ± 0.25	141.47 ± 1.10	1141.8 ± 0.4	137.8 ± 0.04	38.3
LHS 1723	05 01 57.43	-06 56 46.5	<i>V</i>	14 s	258	1999.81–2012.75	12.94	4	187.19 ± 0.76	1.47 ± 0.21	188.66 ± 0.79	770.8 ± 0.3	226.3 ± 0.04	19.4
LHS 3799	22 23 07.00	-17 36 26.1	<i>V</i>	9 s	118	2003.52–2012.70	9.18	6	137.70 ± 1.86	0.47 ± 0.14	138.17 ± 1.87	769.1 ± 0.4	157.7 ± 0.06	26.4

^a Number of seasons (N_{sea}) counts observing semesters where a data set was taken, and denotes if coverage was “c”ontinuous (more than one night of data in all seasons) or “s”cattered.

^b Coverage and years run from the first to last epoch.

Table 7
Astrometric Residuals and Errors

Name	R.A. Res. Dev. (mas)	R.A. Mean Err. (mas)	Decl. Res. Dev. (mas)	Decl. Mean Err. (mas)
G099-049	3.15	4.70	2.72	4.72
GJ 300	1.60	2.58	2.35	2.77
GJ 406	4.85	5.18	5.53	6.60
GJ 555	4.56	6.18	4.35	6.88
GJ 628	3.74	5.30	4.15	6.87
GJ 729	3.25	3.43	4.41	4.90
GJ 1002	0.86	2.39	1.54	3.35
GJ 1065	2.01	3.26	4.45	4.23
GJ 1224	2.49	4.60	2.12	5.41
GJ 1286	1.99	2.50	4.28	4.83
LHS 1723	2.38	3.41	2.34	3.97
LHS 3799	2.02	2.67	2.07	2.65

8. COMPANION DETECTION LIMITS

To identify companions around these 12 stars, we search for hidden periodic signals in the data using Lomb–Scargle periodograms (Scargle 1982). For each star, we search for companions with periods between 2 and 100 days for our RV data and between 300 and 3000 days for our astrometric data (in R.A. and decl. separately). Using the IDL program *scargle.pro*, no frequencies have powers that exceed the 1σ false alarm probability. We conclude that there are no periodic signals in either our RV or astrometric data. From this, we assume our stars are single stars within our detection limits.

To set limits on the presence of companions, we perform Monte Carlo simulations to determine the minimum object mass that we would have been able to detect in our data given our measurement errors and observing cadence.

8.1. RV Limits

As reported in Section 6.4, these stars all have constant RVs to within 139 m s^{-1} . To determine the minimum mass companion we would expect to detect, we simulate 1,000,000 circular orbits for each star, allowing the inclinations and companion masses to vary at orbital periods between 0.5 and 100 days. For each star, we use the stellar masses calculated in Section 2 and allow the stellar masses to fluctuate within 20% to account for possible errors in the mass estimates. We assume circular orbits, which is likely appropriate for companions to old stars with short periods (≤ 10 days; Lin & Gu 2004). The cosine of inclination ranges from 0° to 90° . After creating randomly orientated circular orbits, we then extract predicted RV values at the Julian Dates we observed from these simulated orbits. Then, we compare these extracted RV values to our determined RV errors at their respective Julian Date (see Table 4) to determine a χ^2 value. Then, we use this χ^2 value as an input for the IDL routine *mpchitest.pro* (Markwardt 2009) to determine which orbits we would have been able to detect with 3σ confidence. Figures 5–16 provide illustrations of the RV Monte Carlo simulation results for our stars. The plots are shaded to display the fraction of objects that would have been detected with 3σ confidence in each period and mass increment bin. The sizes of the mass and period bins are $0.10 M_{\text{JUP}}$ and 1 day, respectively. The illustrations show that most Jupiter-

mass companions with periods less than 30 days would be detected. Although some Jupiter-mass companions could be detected at longer periods, the sensitivity becomes strongly dependent on the observing cadence relative to the orbital ephemeris. Aliasing is apparent in our RV data.

To interpret our data collectively, we follow the same method as above, except that we determine the companion mass that we would have been able to detect at selected orbital periods of 3, 10, 30, and 100 days. We allow our selected period to range from $\pm 10\%$ to mitigate the bias caused by aliasing and give a better estimate of the masses of the systems we would be able to detect. The minimum companion mass we would have been able to detect is given in increments of $0.5 M_{\text{JUP}}$. On average for our 12 stars, these simulations suggest that with 3σ confidence we would have been able to detect 90% of companions with a mass of $\sim 1 M_{\text{JUP}}$ in 3 day orbits, $\sim 1.5 M_{\text{JUP}}$ in 10 day orbits, $\sim 3 M_{\text{JUP}}$ in 30 day orbits, and $\sim 7 M_{\text{JUP}}$ in 100 day orbits. The individual detection limits for each star are provided in Table 8. GJ 1065 is only observed over a baseline of ~ 13 days, hence the limits on the mass of a companion that we would be able to detect around this star are significantly larger for an orbital period of 100 days than the rest of the stars in this subsample.

Exoplanets with longer orbital periods can exhibit large eccentricities. In our orbital period range of 0.5–100 days, there are 1356 exoplanets known to date.²⁵ Of those, close to 5% have eccentricities listed above 0.2 and less than 1% have eccentricities above 0.6. The planet with the highest eccentricity in this period range is Kepler 419 b ($e = 0.85$; Dawson et al. 2014). To be inclusive of planets with non-zero eccentricities that have orbital periods between 30 and 100 days, we performed our simulations again allowing the eccentricity to vary from 0.0 to 0.9. In these cases, we find that the minimum companion mass we could detect with our data with a 90% detection rate increases by a factor of three when the eccentricity varies uniformly over this range, compared to when the eccentricities are set to zero.

8.2. Astrometric Limits

Similar to the Monte Carlo simulations performed for the RV orbits, we simulate 1,000,000 photocentric orbits for each star, allowing the inclinations, companion masses, and eccentricities to change. For each star, we use the stellar masses calculated in Section 2 and allow the stellar masses to fluctuate within 20%. We allow the inclination to vary between 0° and 90° and the eccentricity to vary between 0 and 0.9. We allow the longitude of periastron, ω , and the longitude of the ascending node, Ω , to vary from 0° to 180° . We use the weighted distance measurements determined from the literature and from our parallax measurement in Section 7.3. We allowed the orbital periods to range from 2 to 8 yr to represent our observing cadence and temporal baseline. We then use these simulated orbits to extract astrometric positions at our observed Julian Dates. We compare these extracted astrometric positions to our determined astrometric errors (see Table 7) to determine a χ^2 value. Then, we use this χ^2 value as an input for the IDL routine *mpchitest.pro* (Markwardt 2009) to determine which orbits we would have been able to detect with 3σ confidence. Figures 5–16 display the astrometric Monte Carlo simulation results. The plots are shaded

^a Numbers are from www.exoplanet.eu as of 2014 October 27.

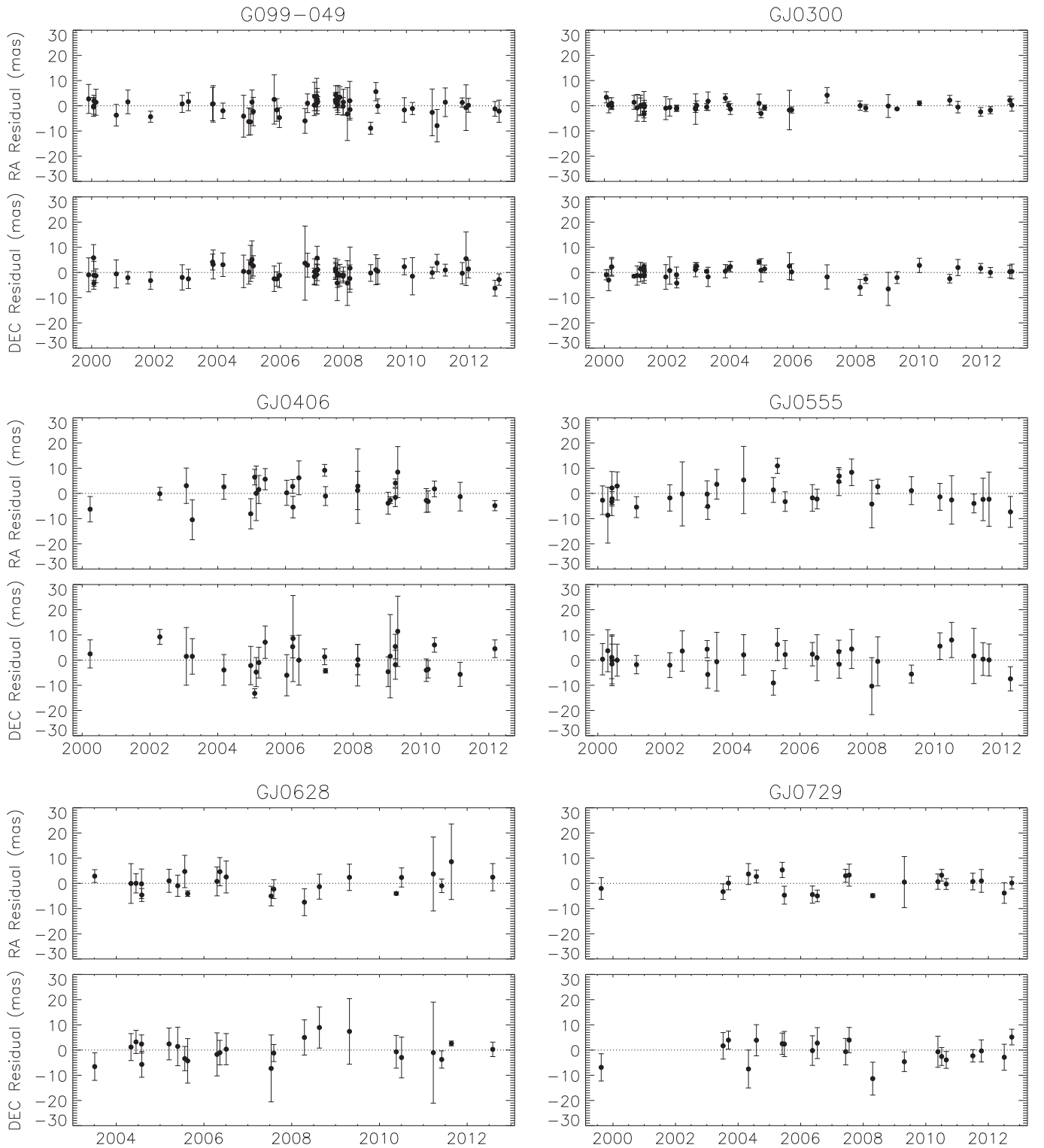


Figure 4. Relative astrometric measurements are plotted over time for both R.A. and decl. After solving for parallactic and proper motion, we see no indications of companions in the astrometric residuals for any of these stars.

to include the fraction of objects that would have been detected with 3σ confidence in each period and mass increment bin of $0.10 M_{\text{JUP}}$ and 0.1 yr, respectively.

To obtain a quantitative estimate of our detection limits, we again perform 1,000,000 Monte Carlo simulations. We keep the same parameters as described above, except we search for companions at selected orbital periods of 2, 4, 6, and 8 yr. We

give the minimum companion mass we would have been able to detect in increments of $0.5 M_{\text{JUP}}$. On average for our 12 stars, these simulations suggest that with 3σ confidence we would have been able to detect 90% of companions with masses of $\sim 18.5 M_{\text{JUP}}$ in 2 yr orbits, $\sim 11.5 M_{\text{JUP}}$ in 4 yr orbits, $\sim 9 M_{\text{JUP}}$ in 6 yr orbits, and $\sim 7.5 M_{\text{JUP}}$ in 8 yr orbits for all of our stars (see Table 8).

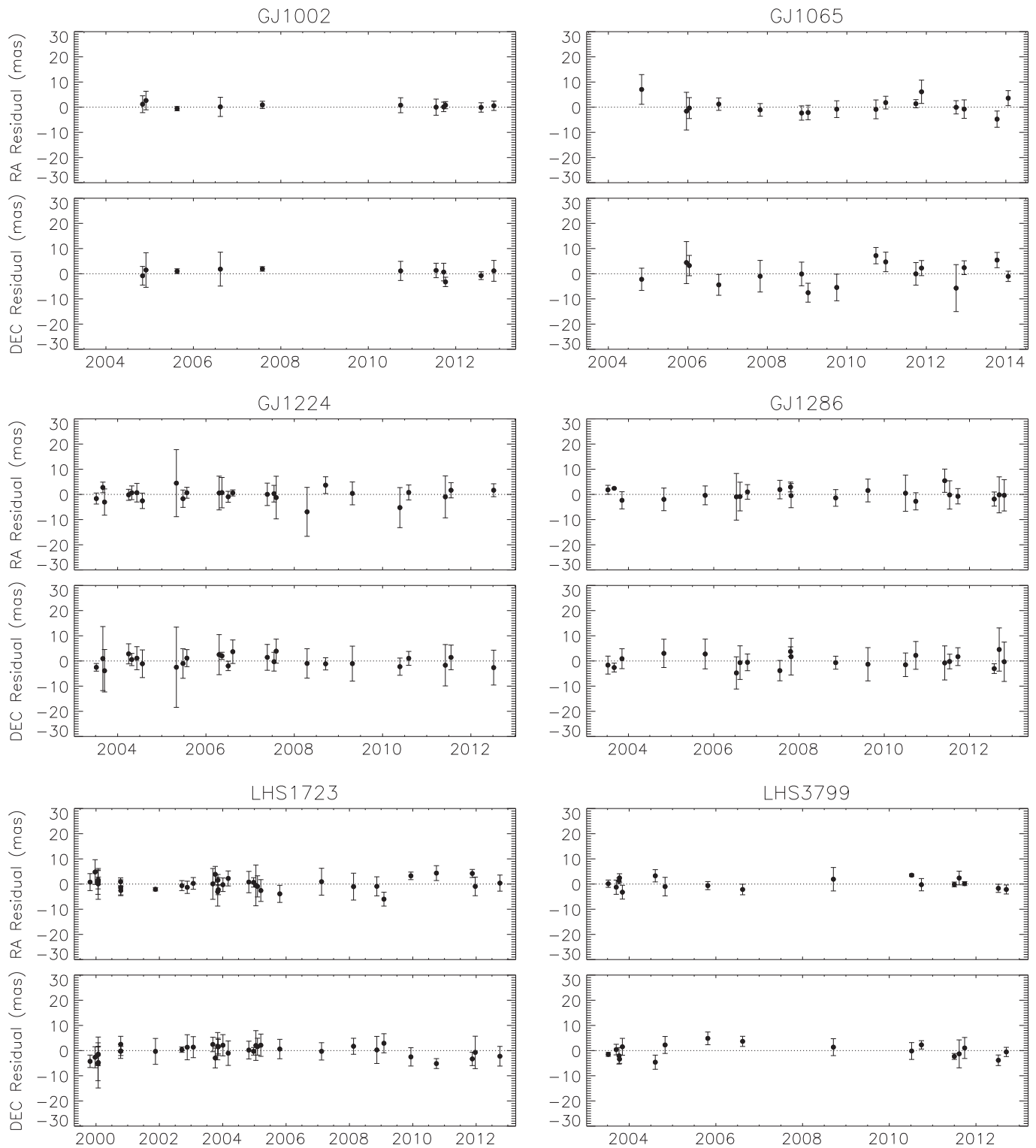


Figure 4. (Continued.)

8.3. Additional Detection Limits from the Literature

8.3.1. Optical RV Limits

To place the strictest limits on excluding companions for the stars in this sub-sample, we also include the results for 11 of the stars that have been previously observed with high dispersion optical spectroscopy to search for planetary companions.

Barnes et al. (2012) present eight epochs of GJ 1286 with a root mean square scatter of 22.1 m s^{-1} over 1.1 days. With that precision and short time cadence, Barnes et al. (2012) would only be sensitive to planets with periods on the order of a few days. The remaining 10 stars with previous RV measurements are included in the HARPS M-dwarf survey (Bonfils et al. 2013). Of those 10, the authors present Monte Carlo

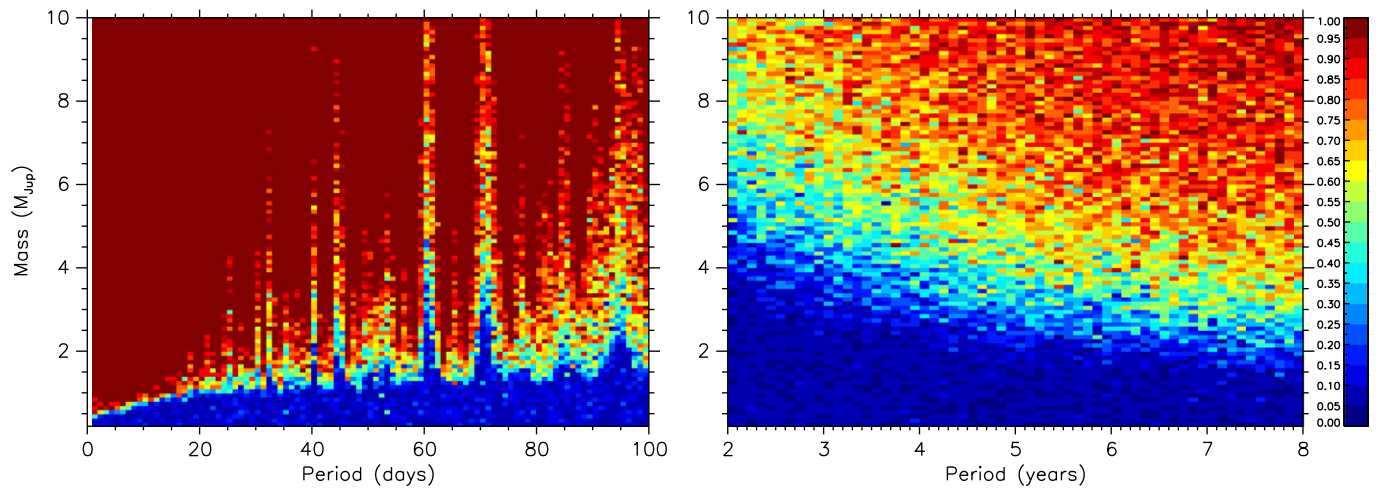


Figure 5. Fraction of detected companions in a companion mass vs. orbital period plot, based on Monte Carlo simulations using the RV data (left panel) and astrometric data (right panel) for G099-049.

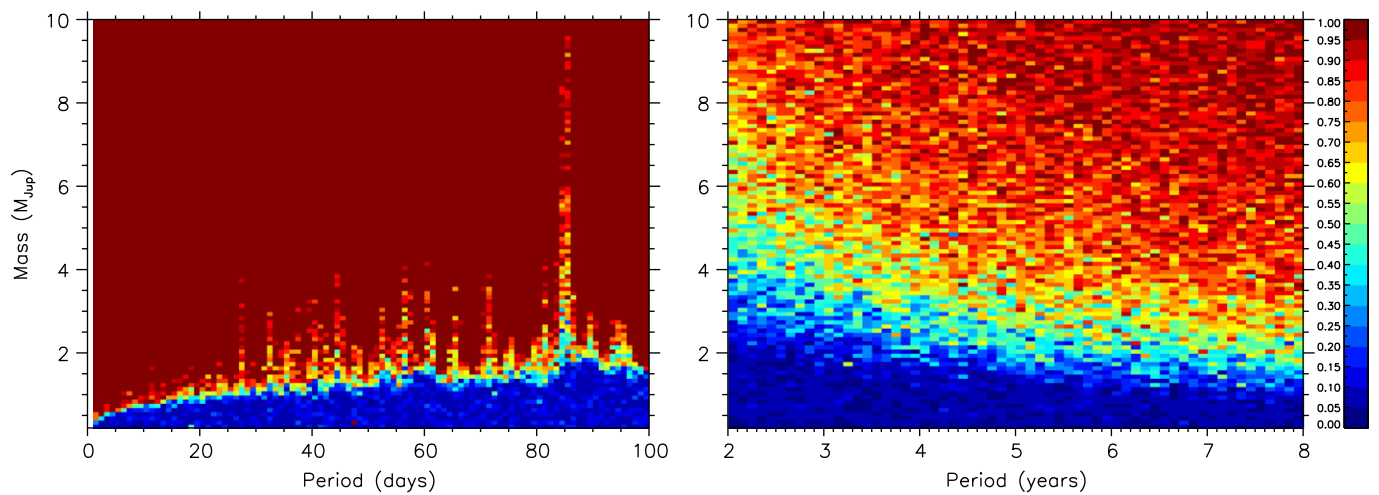


Figure 6. Fraction of detected companions in a companion mass vs. orbital period plot, based on Monte Carlo simulations using the RV data (left panel) and astrometric data (right panel) for GJ 300.

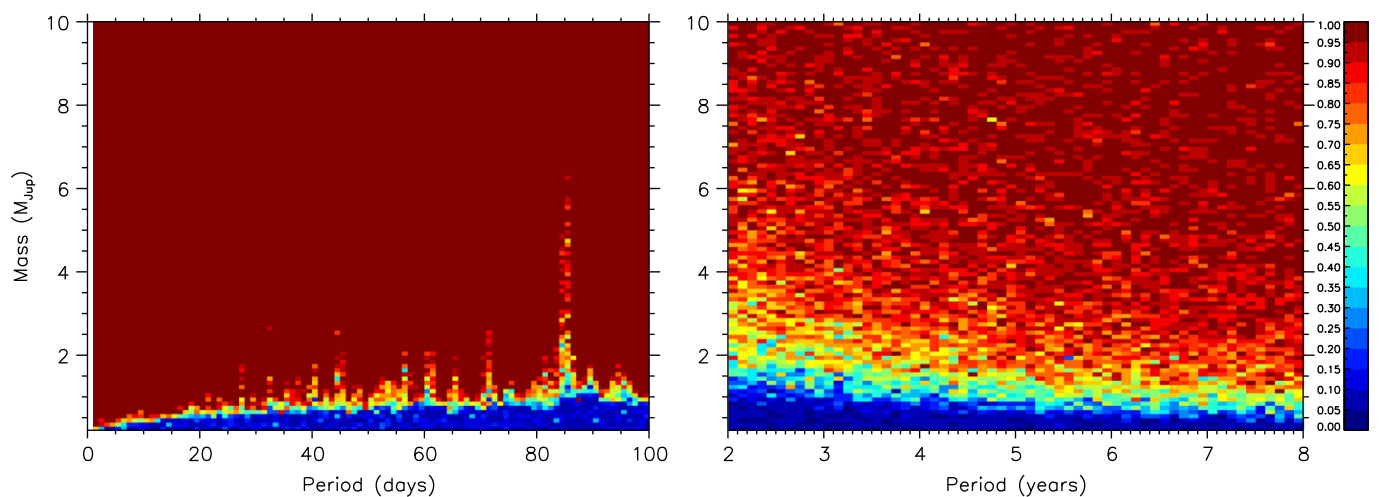


Figure 7. Fraction of detected companions in a companion mass vs. orbital period plot, based on Monte Carlo simulations using the RV data (left panel) and astrometric data (right panel) for GJ 406.

results to exclude the presence of companions around 8 of the stars, as the other 2 stars have fewer than 4 epochs of data. On average for the eight stars, the authors are able to exclude with

99% confidence the presence of companions with masses greater than $0.2M_{\text{JUP}}$ in 10–100 day orbital periods and greater than $1.3M_{\text{JUP}}$ in an 8 yr orbit (Bonfils et al. 2013). We find no

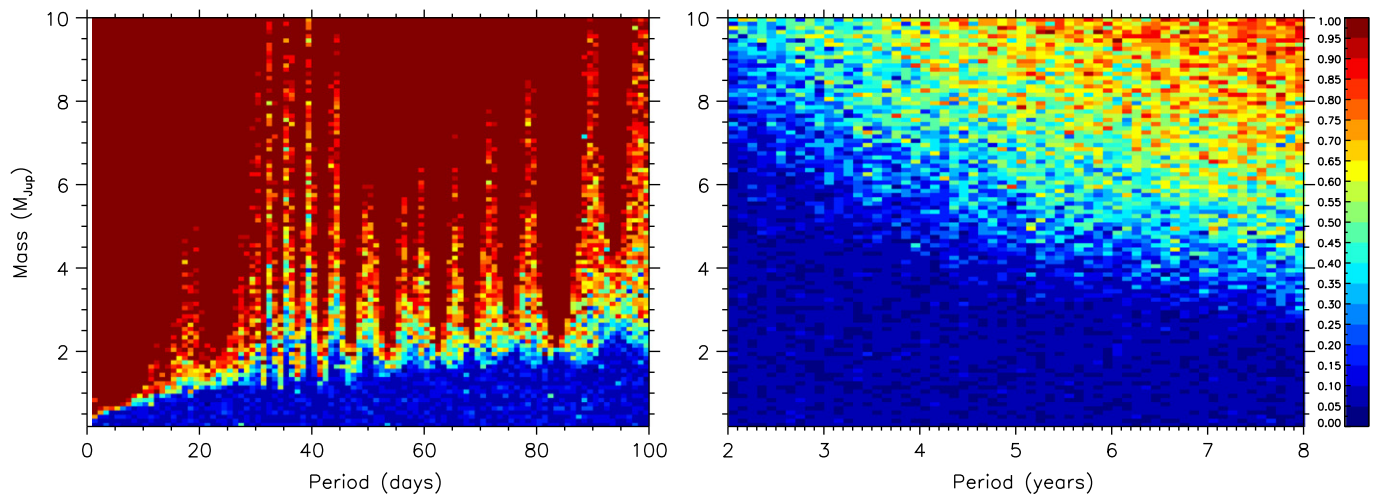


Figure 8. Fraction of detected companions in a companion mass vs. orbital period plot, based on Monte Carlo simulations using the RV data (left panel) and astrometric data (right panel) for GJ 555.

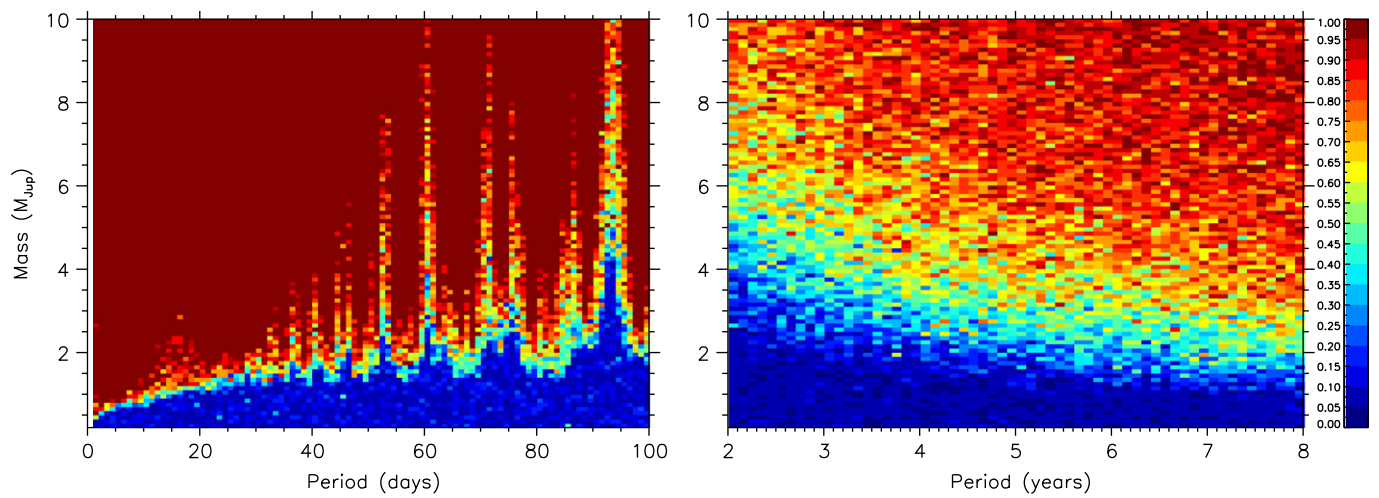


Figure 9. Fraction of detected companions in a companion mass vs. orbital period plot, based on Monte Carlo simulations using the RV data (left panel) and astrometric data (right panel) for GJ 628.

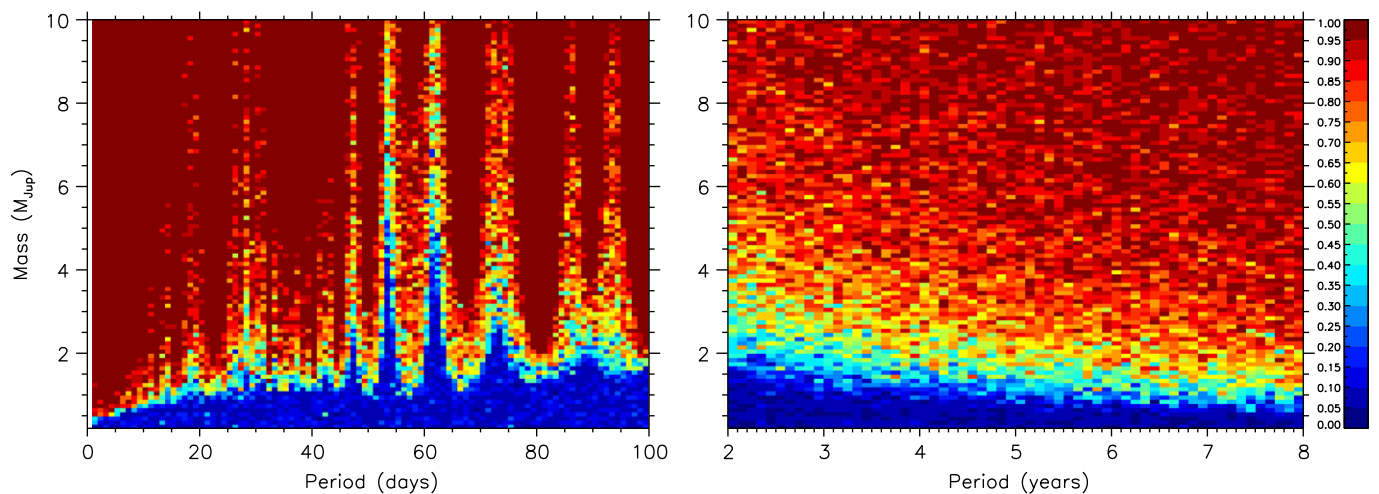


Figure 10. Fraction of detected companions in a companion mass vs. orbital period plot, based on Monte Carlo simulations using the RV data (left panel) and astrometric data (right panel) for GJ 729.

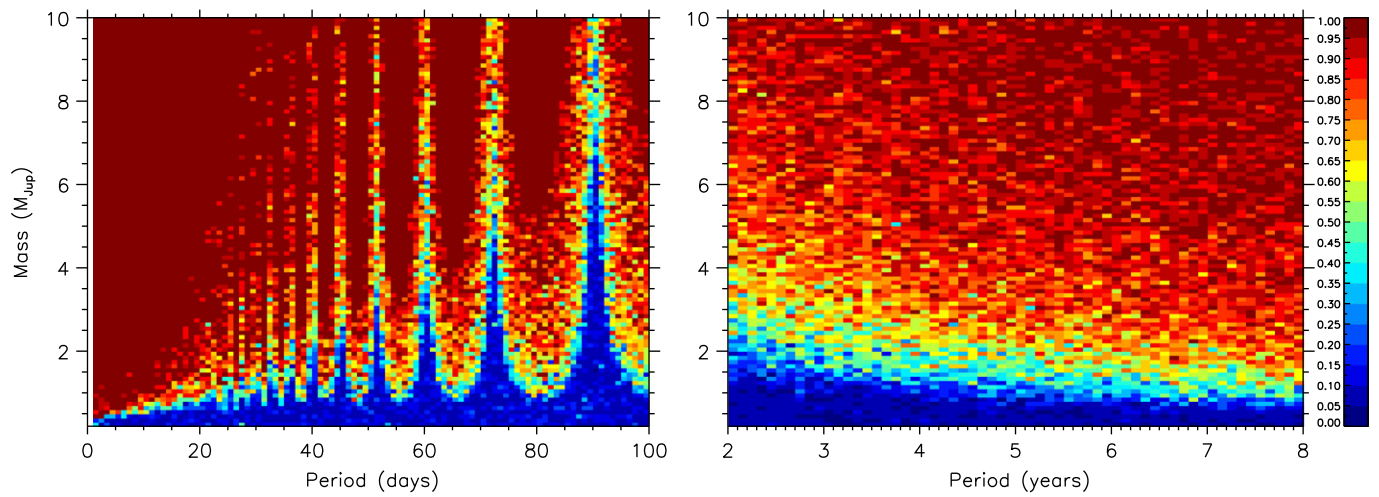


Figure 11. Fraction of detected companions in a companion mass vs. orbital period plot, based on Monte Carlo simulations using the RV data (left panel) and astrometric data (right panel) for GJ 1002.

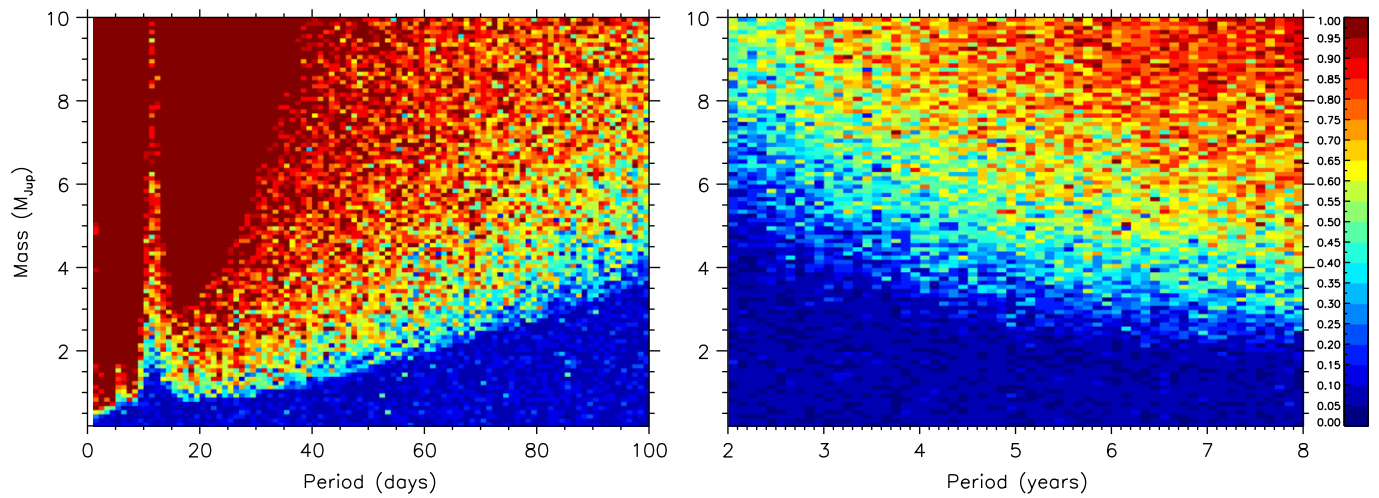


Figure 12. Fraction of detected companions in a companion mass vs. orbital period plot, based on Monte Carlo simulations using the RV data (left panel) and astrometric data (right panel) for GJ 1065.

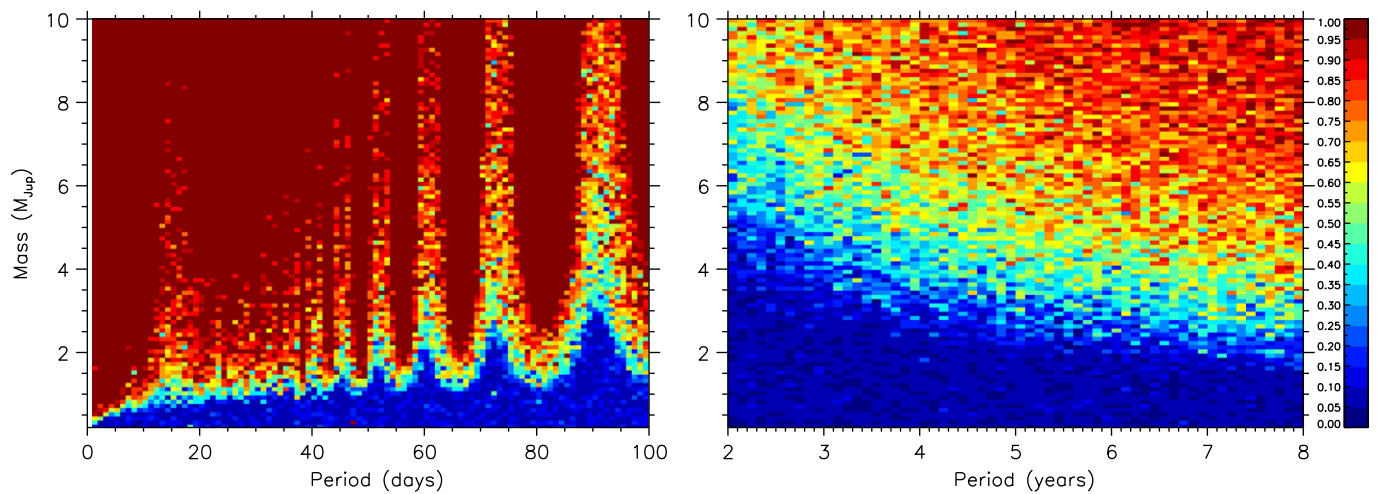


Figure 13. Fraction of detected companions in a companion mass vs. orbital period plot, based on Monte Carlo simulations using the RV data (left panel) and astrometric data (right panel) for GJ 1224.

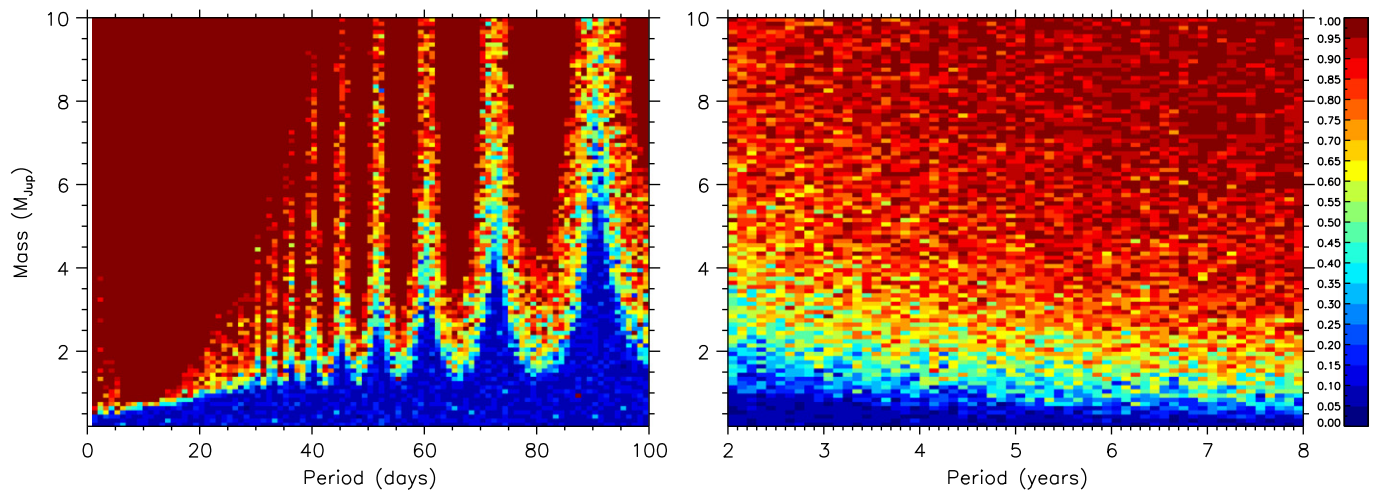


Figure 14. Fraction of detected companions in a companion mass vs. orbital period plot, based on Monte Carlo simulations using the RV data (left panel) and astrometric data (right panel) for GJ 1286.

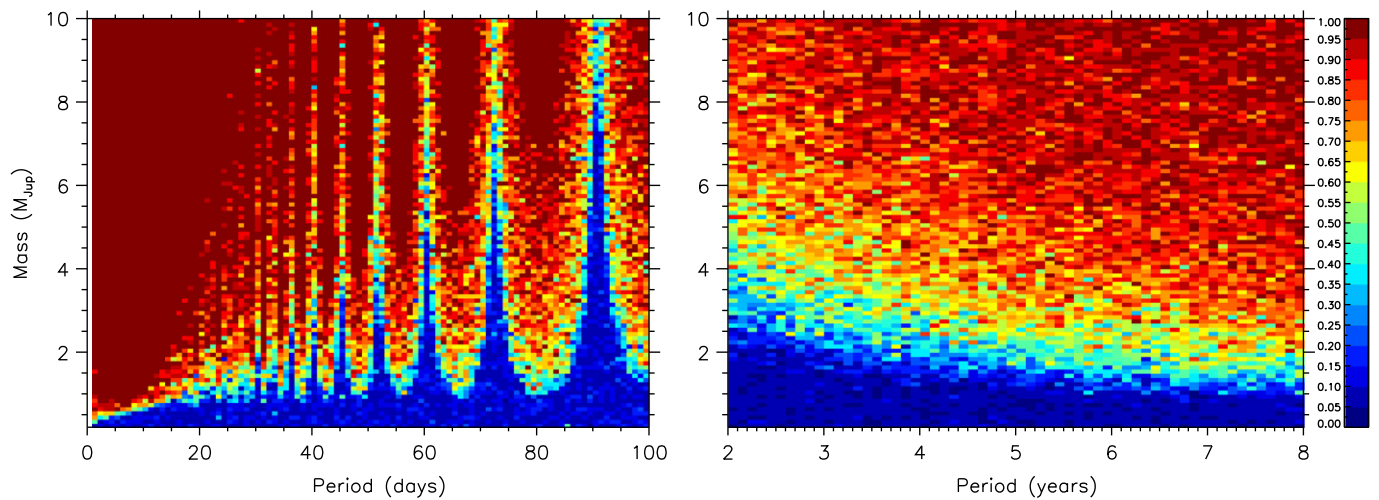


Figure 15. Fraction of detected companions in a companion mass vs. orbital period plot, based on Monte Carlo simulations using the RV data (left panel) and astrometric data (right panel) for LHS 1723.

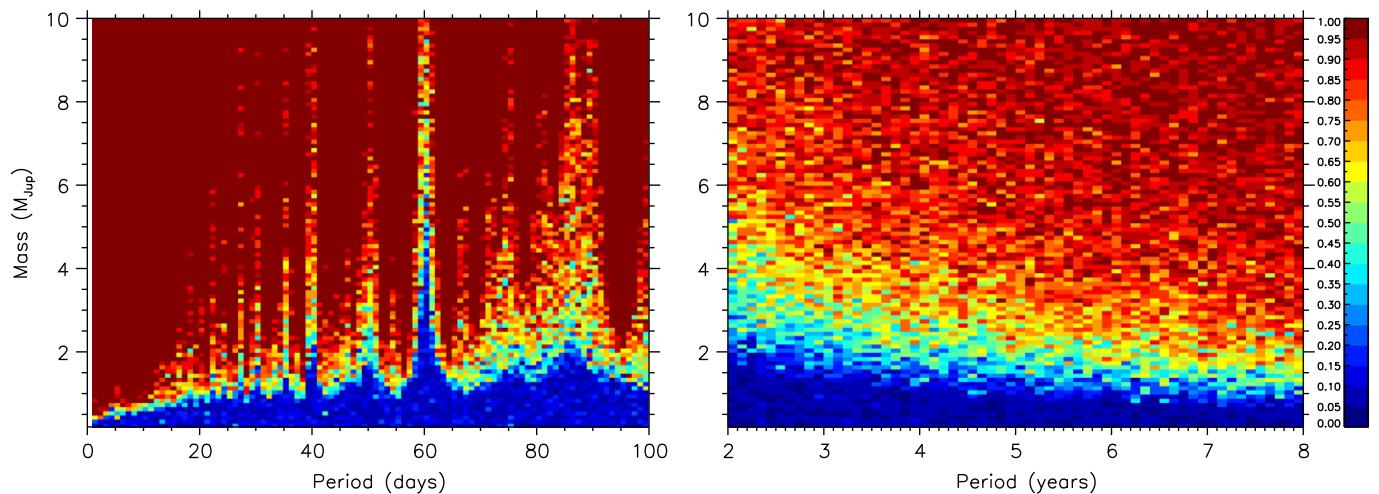


Figure 16. Fraction of detected companions in a companion mass vs. orbital period plot, based on Monte Carlo simulations using the RV data (left panel) and astrometric data (right panel) for LHS 3799.

Table 8
Companion Mass with a 90% Detection Rate

Name	Stellar Mass (M_{\odot})	Radial Velocity Mass Limits				Astrometric Mass Limits			
		3 days (M_{JUP})	10 days (M_{JUP})	30 days (M_{JUP})	100 days (M_{JUP})	2 yr (M_{JUP})	4 yr (M_{JUP})	6 yr (M_{JUP})	8 yr (M_{JUP})
G099-049	0.19	1.0	1.0	2.5	5.5	23.5	14.5	11.0	9.0
GJ 300	0.20	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.5	15.5	9.5	7.5	6.0
GJ 406	0.09	0.5	1.0	1.0	2.0	7.0	4.5	3.5	3.0
GJ 555	0.22	1.0	1.5	4.0	5.0	41.0	26.0	20.0	16.5
GJ 628	0.26	1.0	1.5	2.5	5.5	19.0	11.0	8.5	7.5
GJ 729	0.17	1.0	1.0	4.0	4.5	9.5	6.0	4.5	4.0
GJ 1002	0.11	1.0	1.0	3.0	8.0	9.5	6.0	4.5	4.0
GJ 1065	0.18	1.0	3.5	4.5	24.0	31.5	19.0	15.5	12.5
GJ 1224	0.14	1.0	1.5	2.5	5.5	25.5	15.5	12.0	10.0
GJ 1286	0.11	1.5	1.0	3.0	8.0	11.0	6.5	5.0	4.0
LHS 1723	0.15	1.0	1.0	3.5	10.0	13.0	8.5	6.5	5.5
LHS 3799	0.14	1.0	1.0	3.0	3.0	16.0	10.0	8.0	6.5

previous high-dispersion spectroscopy data for G099-049; thus our data place the strictest companion limits for this star.

8.3.2. High-resolution Imaging Limits

To include companions beyond several AU, we include high-resolution results for companions. AO imaging or *HST* imaging to search for stellar and brown companions has been completed for 11 out of the 12 stars (Nakajima et al. 1994; Oppenheimer et al. 2001; Tanner et al. 2010; Dieterich et al. 2012). GJ 1065 has not been imaged with high-resolution techniques. For 10 of the 12 stars, Oppenheimer et al. (2001) would have been able to detect any stellar companions at separations greater than 10 AU and most old (<5 Gyr) brown dwarfs with masses more than $40 M_{\text{JUP}}$ between 40 and 120 AU. Dieterich et al. (2012) have further constrained the spatial and mass regime of companions around 7 of the 12 stars in the sub-sample. Dieterich et al. (2012) adopt $0.04 M_{\odot}$ ($\sim 42 M_{\text{JUP}}$) at 3 Gyr as the minimum mass detectable with their *HST/NICMOS* snapshot high-resolution imaging survey and find no L dwarf companions in the separation range of 5–70 AU and no T dwarf companions (~ 0.05 – $0.08 M_{\odot}$) to these M dwarfs in the separation range of 10–70 AU.

More targeted surveys have pushed the detection limits of companions down to the planetary range with the use of near-infrared AO (Schroeder et al. 2000; Luhman et al. 2005; Masciadri et al. 2005; Lafrenière et al. 2007). Masciadri et al. (2005) find that GJ 628 has no companions more massive than $5 M_{\text{JUP}}$ at 4 AU and no companions more massive than $10 M_{\text{JUP}}$ at 1 AU. Lafrenière et al. (2007) also rule out the presence of companions more massive than $5 M_{\text{JUP}}$ in the separation range of 25–50 AU around GJ 628. These two studies imply that we can also find massive planets between 1 and 50 AU around nearby M dwarfs via imaging techniques, assuming the luminosities from models are correct.

8.3.3. Common Proper Motion Limits

To extend our search to include wide companions (>100 AU), we include common proper motion searches for companions. Hinz et al. (2002) have searched 10 of the 12 targets and find no stellar or brown dwarf companions at wide separations (~ 100 – 1400 AU) around these stars. With a limiting *J* band magnitude of ~ 16.5 mag, Hinz et al. (2002)

would have been able to find $\sim 40 M_{\text{JUP}}$ for an assumed age of 5 Gyr at a distance of 5.8 pc.

9. SUMMARY

In recent years, we have gained a better statistical understanding on how common Jupiter-size and Earth-size planets are around stars from the *Kepler* mission, which photometrically monitored approximately 150,000 stars in its first 3.5 yr (e.g., Batalha et al. 2010; Howard et al. 2012; Dressing & Charbonneau 2013; Fressin et al. 2013; Mulders et al. 2014). Of those, 3000 are M stars that are brighter than 16th magnitude in the *Kepler* passband ($K_p < 16$; Batalha et al. 2010). As *Kepler* is magnitude limited, most M stars being monitored are early M dwarfs. *Kepler* has discovered many planets around these stars and even around mid M dwarfs, like the M4 dwarf *Kepler* 42 (Muirhead et al. 2012, 2014). However, *Kepler* and the subsequent *K2* mission (Howell et al. 2014) will not be able to survey all of our faint stellar neighbors and thereby determine an unbiased measurement of the frequency of planets around the latest M dwarfs. With the current limited number of mid to late M dwarfs that have been surveyed for companions by ground-based telescopes and *Kepler*, we cannot concretely say whether planets even exist around these stars, as the latest known star with an exoplanet is the M4.5 dwarf GJ 1214 (Reid et al. 1995; Charbonneau et al. 2009). Therefore, the New Worlds New Horizons 2010 Astronomy Decadal Survey has stated the need to develop new innovative reduction techniques and instrumentation to explore the lowest mass stars on the main sequence, as these stars are often too faint and chromospherically active for current ground-based optical companion surveys and the *Kepler* mission. Motivated by this, we have identified and characterized a volume-limited survey of mid to late M dwarfs and present our infrared RV and astrometric programs, which are both viable methods to discover Jupiter-mass and brown dwarf companions.

At the start of this study, we identified a volume-limited equatorial sample of 60 mid M dwarfs that extends out to 10 pc, which are observable from most facilities in the northern and southern hemispheres. Since this time, two of these stars have been found to have spectroscopic companions (GJ 867BD, LHS 1610AB; Bonfils et al. 2013; Davison et al. 2014). For the remaining 58 isolated stars in the sample, we

provide new V , R , and I photometry and new low dispersion optical (6000–9000 Å) spectra, from which we measure the $H\alpha$ EWs, Na I indices, and spectral types. We determine that 35 stars are emission-line stars, and note the trend of later type M stars being more likely to be emission-line stars than earlier type M stars.

For a smaller subsample of 12 stars, we present rotational velocities and absolute RVs. Of these 12 stars, 10 have $v\sin i$ values below our detection limit (3 km s^{-1}), while G099-049 and GJ 729 have $v\sin i$ values of 5.8 ± 0.3 and $3.8 \pm 0.6 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, respectively. For these 12 stars, our observed RV dispersion is 99 m s^{-1} with a standard deviation of 27 m s^{-1} . We also demonstrate that an achievable RV precision using our technique is $\sim 90 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ over timescales from 13 days to 5 yr. Our spectroscopic results indicate that on average we would have detected companions with masses greater than $1.5 M_{\text{JUP}}$ in 10 day orbital periods and greater than $7 M_{\text{JUP}}$ in 100 day orbital periods.

Over baselines of 9–13 yr, we provide astrometry with typical residuals (after determining parallaxes and proper motions) of $\sim 3 \text{ mas}$. This allows us to exclude the presence of companions with masses greater than $11.5 M_{\text{JUP}}$ with orbital periods of 4 yr and $7.5 M_{\text{JUP}}$ with orbital periods of 8 yr. Although we do not detect companions around any of the stars in our subsample, these results do show that we could easily detect brown dwarfs with wide orbits around low-mass stars.

An ensemble result of this work is that all 12 stars studied here with both infrared spectroscopy and astrometry and in the literature with various other techniques are found to be single stars without stellar, brown dwarf, or giant planet companions within the respective detection limits of the studies. These results provide a first step in the process of vetting our nearest neighbors for planet searches. We suggest that these slowly rotating single stars would be prime targets for upcoming Earth-mass RV planet searches using new instruments (e.g., ISHELL with use of a gas cell, SPIROU, and CARMENES; Quirrenbach et al. 2010, p. 521; Rayner et al. 2012; Reshetov et al. 2012) coming online, as these instruments should be sensitive enough to search for Earth-mass planets around mid to late M dwarfs.

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