

OPTICAL *BVR* PHOTOMETRY OF COMMON PROPER MOTION F/G/K+M WIDE SEPARATION BINARIES

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ABSTRACT

We present optical (*BVR*) photometric measurements of a sample of 76 common proper motion wide separation main-sequence binary pairs. The pairs are composed of a F-, G-, or K-type primary star and an M-type secondary. The sample is selected from the revised NLTT catalog and the LSPM catalog. The photometry is generally precise to 0.03 mag in all bands. We separate our sample into two groups, dwarf candidates and subdwarf candidates, using the reduced proper motion diagram constructed with our improved photometry. The M subdwarf candidates in general have larger $V - R$ colors than the M dwarf candidates at a given $V - I$ color. This is consistent with an average metallicity difference between the two groups, as predicted by the PHOENIX/BT-Settl models. The improved photometry will be used as input into a technique to determine the metallicities of the M-type stars.

Key words: Galaxy: halo – solar neighborhood – stars: late-type – subdwarfs

Online-only material: color figures

1. INTRODUCTION

M-type main-sequence stars are small and faint and are therefore difficult to study, but they are the most numerous stars in the Galaxy and so form an important subset of the Galactic population. Late-type members of the Galactic halo, M subdwarfs could in principle give the most complete census of the distributions of both metallicities and kinematics of the local halo and could be used to investigate the chemical enrichment history and merger history of the Galaxy. In addition, M dwarfs have become the target for many exoplanet surveys, since low-mass Earth- or Neptune-size planets orbiting lower mass stars are more easily detected with the Doppler or transit techniques than those orbiting higher mass stars. An improved understanding of M dwarf stellar atmospheres will lead to a better understanding of these exoplanet hosts.

Despite the potential importance of late-type main-sequence stars on Galactic and exoplanet studies, these low-mass stars remain one of the least understood stellar types. The spectra of M-type stars are complicated with many broad molecular bands due to abundant diatomic and triatomic molecules such as TiO, VO, H₂O, CO, and CaH (Gizis 1997). Historically, atmospheric models have had difficulties fitting these broad features with adequate precision to allow for accurate metallicity estimates (Bonfils et al. 2005). Traditional methods of determining abundance from high-resolution spectra of weak atomic lines used for hotter stars are inaccurate for cooler M-type stars since the local pseudo-continuum estimated from a high-resolution spectrum is polluted by a forest of molecular absorption features. Moreover, the atmospheric models of the M-type stars still cannot reproduce the details of high-resolution spectra due to the limitation of the molecular opacity database. So far, deriving metallicity from high-resolution spectra has only been attempted for a small sample of stars (Woolf & Wallerstein 2005; Bean et al. 2006; Önehag et al. 2012) since such measurements are difficult.

Progress has recently been made to measure the metallicities of M-type main-sequence stars using visual binary pairs that

contain both a solar type (F-, G-, or K-type) primary and an M-type companion. Since both components of a binary pair presumably formed from the same molecular cloud, the metallicity of an M-type companion can be assumed to be the same as that of the F-, G-, K-type primary. One therefore can create an empirical calibration to determine metallicities of M stars using the observable features of the M-type secondary and the metallicities of the primary stars derived from high-resolution spectra. Bonfils et al. (2005) pioneered the use of F/G/K+M binaries to obtain a photometric calibration of M dwarf metallicities with the closest and brightest M dwarfs that have known parallaxes. Woolf & Wallerstein (2006) used molecular line indices (e.g., TiO, CaH) at visible wavelengths in moderate-resolution spectra as a proxy for metallicity. In the past few years, a few studies have used the spectral lines and spectral indices for metallicity-sensitive features in the near-infrared spectra (Rojas-Ayala et al. 2012; Mann et al. 2013; Newton et al. 2014). However, most of this work has been applied to stars with near-solar metallicity ($[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] > -1$). Little work has been done to date on measuring the metallicities of M subdwarfs ($[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -1$; see, however, Woolf et al. 2009).

We plan to develop an empirical calibration of M subdwarf metallicities similar to the work of Woolf & Wallerstein (2006) but over a wider range of metallicities ($-2.5 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -0.5$). We have selected a large sample of common proper motion binaries having kinematics consistent with the Galactic halo population and we will measure the metallicities of the primaries using standard techniques. Accurate photometry is necessary for deriving the atmospheric parameters of the primaries. Line indices associated with TiO and CaH features measured in moderate-resolution spectroscopy of the secondaries will be used to calibrate their metallicities and, again, improved photometry of the secondaries will be essential in establishing the metallicity calibration.

In this paper, we present the results of the *BVR* photometry of the selected common proper motion F/G/K+M main-sequence binaries. Throughout this paper, we will use the term “M dwarf”

to refer to M-type main-sequence stars that, based on their colors and kinematics, are likely members of the Galactic disk population (and are therefore likely to be relatively metal-rich, i.e., $-0.5 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < +0.5$). We will also refer to “M subdwarfs,” the generally more metal-poor ($[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -0.5$) analogs of main-sequence M dwarfs, that are likely to belong to the Galactic halo or thick disk populations. Section 2 briefly describes the sample selection. This is followed by a description of the observations and data reduction in Section 3. In Section 4, we present the photometry and errors of the sample. An improved reduced proper motion (RPM) diagram and a new color–color diagram for this sample are also derived. In a future paper, spectroscopic observations of these binaries together with the photometry presented in this paper will be used to derive an empirical calibration of metallicities for M subdwarfs (J. Marshall et al. 2014, in preparation).

2. SAMPLE SELECTION

We selected stars from a preliminary version of the LSPM-South (S. Lépine 2007, private communication) and LSPM-North catalog (Lépine & Shara 2005); hereafter, we will refer to the combination of these two catalogs as the LSPM catalog. The LSPM catalog is from the SUPERBLINK proper motion survey based on the analysis of scans from the Digitized Sky Survey (Lépine 2005, 2008). We also selected “halo” binaries from the published list of wide binaries from the revised New Luyten Two-Tenths Catalog (rNLTT) by Chanamé & Gould (2004). The rNLTT catalog contains astrometry and optical/infrared photometry for the vast majority of NLTT stars ($\mu > 0''.18/\text{yr}$) lying in the overlap of regions covered by POSS I and by the second incremental Two Micron All Sky Survey (2MASS) release (Gould & Salim 2003; Salim & Gould 2003). The infrared (primarily J -band) photometry of both catalogs comes from 2MASS (Skrutskie et al. 2006), which is well calibrated and has good photometric precision, with errors typically less than 3%. The quality of the optical photometry is not as good. Both catalogs adopted V photometry from the Tycho-2 Catalog (Høg et al. 2000) for most stars with $V < 12$ mag and the photometric errors are about 0.10 mag. For $V > 12$ mag, V photometry of the LSPM catalog is converted from the photographic magnitudes of the blue and red plates from the USNO-B1.0 catalog (Monet 2003), while a similar derivation is done for the photometry in the rNLTT catalog but the photographic magnitude is from the USNO-A catalog (Monet 1996, 1998). In both catalogs, the photometric errors from the blue and red plates are about 0.3 mag. Binaries from both catalogs were selected on the basis of a given pair of stars having a separation of less than $900''$ and larger than $3''$ and having common proper motions. The pairs are generally required to have a proper motion difference $\Delta\mu < 20 \text{ mas yr}^{-1}$.

The sample was then selected to contain subdwarfs via their placement on a RPM diagram, which plots $H_m = m + 5 \log(\mu) + 5$ versus color and is used to separate stars into distinct kinematic populations (Marshall 2007; Lépine et al. 2007). The RPM diagram uses the proper motion as a distance proxy and is thereby similar to a color–magnitude diagram (CMD) in which subdwarfs have bluer colors than main-sequence dwarfs at a given luminosity due to reduced metal opacity in the optical. More importantly, stellar members of the local halo population may have large proper motions, which increases the value of H_m relative to local disk stars. Because of these two effects, an RPM diagram that is constructed using high precision photometry can be used to separate the dwarf (disk) and subdwarf (halo)

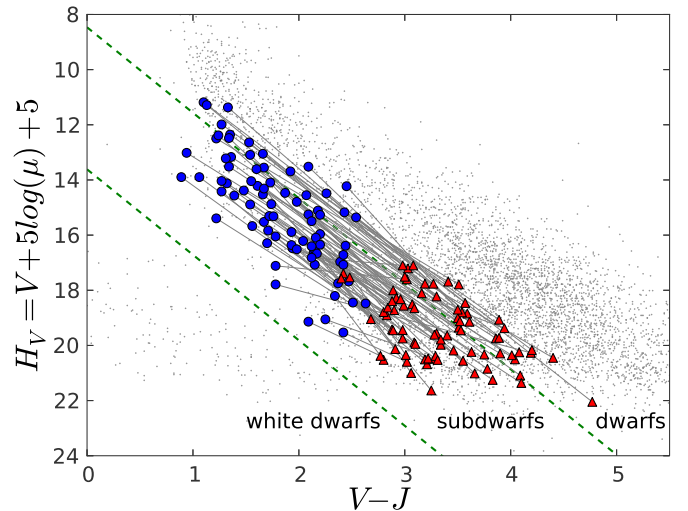


Figure 1. Reduced proper motion (RPM) diagram of the sample pairs. Blue filled circles indicate F/G/K-type candidate subdwarf primaries and red filled triangles represent the M-type candidate subdwarf secondaries. Lines connect the primary and secondary of each pair. Discriminator lines separating the solar metallicity dwarfs, metal-poor subdwarfs, and white dwarfs are drawn at $\eta = 0$ and $\eta = 5.15$, as defined by Salim & Gould (2003). Overplotted gray dots are stars in the LSPM-North catalog. (Lépine & Shara 2005)

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

kinematic populations cleanly and to search efficiently for halo subdwarf candidates and even extreme subdwarf ($[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2$) candidates (Marshall 2008).

Figure 1 shows the RPM diagram of the sample from which these binaries were drawn; lines connect the primary and secondary to show that they are very likely to have similar metallicities and the same proper motion. Two discriminator lines with $\eta = 0$ and $\eta = 5.15$ are drawn on the plot to separate the main-sequence dwarfs (MS), subdwarfs (SD), and white dwarfs (WD), as defined by Salim & Gould (2003):

$$\eta(H_V, V - J, \sin b) = H_V - 3.1(V - J) - 1.47|\sin b| - 7.73, \quad (1)$$

where b is the Galactic latitude of the targets. The discriminator lines presented here are drawn for a sample of low Galactic latitude $b = \pm 30^\circ$. Note that, due to the large errors of the previously published photometry, we made a relatively generous choice of discriminator ($\eta > -1.5$) in order to include all the potential subdwarf candidates.

The final requirement is a color cut so that the primaries generally have $(V - J) < 2.5$ and the secondaries have $(V - J) > 2.8$; in this way, we select primaries that are likely to be F, G, or K subdwarfs and secondaries that are M subdwarfs. These criteria yielded a list of nine pairs from Chanamé & Gould (2004) and 65 pairs from the LSPM catalog, which are observable from the southern hemisphere ($\delta < +20^\circ$). Two pairs are in both Chanamé & Gould (2004) and the LSPM catalog; for these two pairs, we adopt the information from the LSPM catalog. Given the chance that the photometric errors in the catalog were higher than expected, we also included three pairs with primaries having $(V - J) > 2.5$ and five pairs with the secondaries having $(V - J) < 2.8$. We therefore have a total sample of 80 pairs in this work; the position, proper motion, V magnitude, $(V - J)$ color, and separation of these candidate pairs are listed in Table 1. The secondaries of three pairs (PM I00329+1805, PM I04327+0820, PM I06436+0851 as primaries) were identified in the preliminary version of the LSPM-South catalog but they are not included in the final

Table 1
F/G/K+M Common Proper Motion Sample

ID ^a	Primary						ID ^a	Secondary						Sep ^d	Notes
	R.A.	Decl.	pmRA ^b	pmDEC ^b	V ^c	V - J ^c		R.A.	Decl.	pmRA ^b	pmDEC ^b	V ^c	V - J ^c		
PM I00025-4644	00:02:35.66	-46:44:52.0	0.150	-0.049	16.69	2.47	PM I00026-4644	00:02:36.21	-46:44:57.9	0.150	-0.049	20.01	3.06	8.1	
PM I00329+1805	00:32:55.80	+18:05:52.9	0.095	-0.065	16.08	2.44	PM I00329+1805-2	00:32:56.85	+18:05:56.5	0.095	-0.065	20.20	4.04	15.4	c, k
PM I00422+0731E	00:42:15.23	+07:31:18.7	0.169	-0.068	15.31	2.14	PM I00422+0731W	00:42:14.35	+07:31:19.9	0.169	-0.068	18.83	2.91	13.1	
PM I00592+0705N	00:59:17.81	+07:05:56.4	0.116	-0.003	14.06	1.48	PM I00592+0705S	00:59:17.38	+07:05:47.0	0.103	-0.017	19.26	3.51	11.4	
NLTT 3847	01:09:28.97	-05:07:25.3	0.743	0.044	13.43	1.78	NLTT 3849	01:09:29.34	-05:07:30.6	0.743	0.044	15.91	4.19	8.0	k
PM I01227+1409	01:22:43.29	+14:09:34.5	-0.078	-0.140	10.16	1.10	PM I01226+1409E	01:22:41.13	+14:09:28.8	-0.077	-0.135	19.21	4.20	31.9	
PM I01266-4842W	01:26:37.33	-48:42:51.0	0.205	-0.050	13.63	2.09	PM I01266-4842E	01:26:38.28	-48:42:54.9	0.205	-0.050	18.83	4.40	10.2	k
NLTT 4817	01:26:55.17	+12:00:25.9	-0.014	-0.359	11.12	0.89	NLTT 4814	01:26:54.13	+12:00:06.8	-0.011	-0.364	16.61	2.88	24.4	
PM I01352+0538N	01:35:14.71	+05:38:24.7	0.285	-0.035	10.80	1.54	PM I01352+0538S	01:35:14.24	+05:38:12.0	0.267	-0.026	15.86	2.89	14.4	
PM I01430-4959W	01:43:00.68	-49:59:26.8	0.021	-0.181	14.09	1.22	PM I01430-4959E	01:43:01.27	-49:59:22.1	0.021	-0.181	18.15	2.89	7.4	
PM I02012+0218	02:01:15.09	+02:18:25.8	0.209	-0.024	17.44	2.25	PM I02012+0217	02:01:17.12	+02:17:29.7	0.209	-0.024	18.87	3.28	63.8	h
PM I02225+1531S	02:22:34.06	+15:31:09.9	0.188	-0.141	12.67	1.66	PM I02225+1531N	02:22:33.00	+15:31:47.8	0.188	-0.141	18.33	3.46	40.8	h
PM I02267-4214	02:26:47.96	-42:14:58.9	-0.022	-0.160	13.85	1.54	PM I02267-4215	02:26:46.85	-42:15:06.8	-0.022	-0.160	19.25	3.90	14.7	h
NLTT 8753	02:42:05.13	-24:45:16.3	-0.058	-0.419	16.40	2.42	NLTT 8759	02:42:14.98	-24:44:18.0	-0.056	-0.418	17.47	3.02	146.3	k
PM I02548+2057W	02:54:49.43	+20:57:34.8	0.040	-0.115	16.54	2.39	PM I02548+2057E	02:54:50.04	+20:57:32.1	0.036	-0.122	19.86	3.29	8.9	h
PM I02569-5831N	02:56:55.71	-58:31:24.3	0.152	-0.098	14.07	2.54	PM I02569-5831S	02:56:56.81	-58:31:36.6	0.152	-0.098	20.76	4.77	15.0	
PM I03150+0102	03:15:04.76	+01:02:15.2	0.363	0.117	10.26	1.36	PM I03150+0103	03:15:00.92	+01:03:08.3	0.353	0.128	14.89	3.27	78.3	
PM I03256-3333E	03:25:41.79	-33:33:34.6	0.137	-0.182	14.93	2.42	PM I03256-3333Wn	03:25:40.93	-33:33:25.3	0.137	-0.182	16.72	3.07	14.2	m
NLTT 12296	03:59:04.27	-06:56:03.2	0.024	-0.253	15.05	2.42	NLTT 12294	03:59:02.49	-06:56:33.8	0.023	-0.258	18.28	3.01	40.5	
PM I04072+1526N	04:07:16.36	+15:26:42.8	0.109	-0.122	10.30	1.33	PM I04072+1526S	04:07:15.45	+15:26:20.2	0.103	-0.120	17.85	3.59	26.2	
PM I04099+0942E	04:09:54.30	+09:42:58.8	0.078	-0.273	14.21	1.94	PM I04099+0942W	04:09:54.07	+09:42:56.4	0.078	-0.273	17.11	3.94	4.2	l
PM I04254-4601	04:25:28.74	-46:01:23.9	0.100	-0.124	14.51	1.67	PM I04255-4601	04:25:30.84	-46:01:22.7	0.100	-0.124	20.24	3.83	21.9	
PM I04325-5657N	04:32:32.44	-56:57:04.3	0.124	-0.133	12.22	1.34	PM I04325-5657S	04:32:31.79	-56:57:14.6	0.124	-0.133	16.81	3.16	11.6	
PM I04327+0820	04:32:45.59	+08:20:05.5	0.053	-0.085	14.09	1.73	PM I04327+0820-2	04:32:46.10	+08:20:14.6	0.053	-0.085	19.89	3.09	11.9	c
PM I04332+0013	04:33:17.84	+00:13:59.8	-0.060	-0.152	11.43	1.22	PM I04333+0014	04:33:18.67	+00:14:14.0	-0.064	-0.140	16.85	3.51	18.9	
PM I04477-3044W	04:47:42.65	-30:44:03.2	0.157	-0.142	11.59	1.31	PM I04477-3044E	04:47:44.22	-30:44:02.5	0.143	-0.143	18.80	3.75	20.3	i
NLTT 14407	05:02:20.19	-19:32:04.4	0.527	-0.419	11.82	2.20	NLTT 14408	05:02:20.95	-19:32:01.9	0.527	-0.419	14.58	2.90	11.0	
PM I05137+0647W	05:13:46.03	+06:47:01.0	0.134	-0.109	11.83	0.94	PM I05137+0647E	05:13:47.17	+06:47:08.6	0.134	-0.109	19.17	4.01	18.6	
PM I05195+0903E	05:19:34.77	+09:03:46.3	0.079	-0.234	14.56	2.15	PM I05195+0903W	05:19:34.09	+09:03:36.8	0.079	-0.234	17.98	3.10	13.9	
PM I05484-3617Nn	05:48:28.64	-36:17:06.7	0.090	-0.156	14.77	1.78	PM I05484-3617S	05:48:29.65	-36:17:19.5	0.090	-0.156	18.47	2.98	17.6	
PM I06032+1921N	06:03:14.87	+19:21:38.6	0.667	-0.623	9.32	1.32	PM I06032+1921S	06:03:14.51	+19:21:34.0	0.659	-0.609	13.51	2.92	6.9	l
PM I06050+0723S	06:05:03.52	+07:23:30.5	-0.199	-0.098	14.94	2.17	PM I06050+0723N	06:05:03.39	+07:23:39.1	-0.199	-0.098	16.83	2.99	8.8	k
PM I06394-3030E	06:39:24.52	-30:30:50.9	0.040	0.183	14.73	2.16	PM I06394-3030W	06:39:24.03	-30:30:55.3	0.040	0.183	16.17	2.48	7.0	m
PM I06436+0851	06:43:36.55	+08:51:44.4	0.069	-0.055	13.79	2.09	PM I06436+0851-2	06:43:35.88	+08:51:40.8	0.084	-0.065	18.67	3.54	10.5	c
PM I08152-6337	08:15:17.60	-63:37:18.4	-0.152	0.240	12.22	2.26	PM I08153-6337	08:15:18.03	-63:37:04.5	-0.152	0.240	16.74	3.50	14.2	
PM I08239-7549W	08:23:54.94	-75:49:34.3	-0.045	0.202	11.06	1.53	PM I08239-7549E	08:23:58.54	-75:49:32.4	-0.030	0.216	16.53	3.30	13.3	
PM I08386-3856	08:38:36.72	-38:56:55.7	0.101	-0.126	12.65	1.92	PM I08386-3857	08:38:37.73	-38:57:14.4	0.101	-0.126	17.42	3.57	22.0	
PM I09502+0509E	09:50:13.89	+05:09:02.4	0.210	-0.220	11.80	1.61	PM I09502+0509W	09:50:12.89	+05:09:08.2	0.217	-0.216	18.66	4.09	16.0	
PM I10105+1203W	10:10:34.78	+12:03:17.6	-0.185	-0.078	12.53	1.55	PM I10105+1203E	10:10:35.17	+12:03:22.9	-0.185	-0.078	18.23	3.86	7.8	
PM I10520+1521N	10:52:02.16	+15:21:18.6	0.134	-0.150	16.23	2.37	PM I10520+1521S	10:52:01.65	+15:21:09.5	0.134	-0.150	18.46	3.34	11.7	
PM I1110-4414	11:11:04.09	-44:14:15.9	-0.134	-0.320	12.97	1.56	PM I11109-4416	11:10:57.83	-44:16:31.1	-0.152	-0.306	16.24	2.83	151.0	l
PM I11125-3512	11:12:30.07	-35:12:35.0	-0.115	-0.113	15.31	2.20	PM I11124-3512	11:12:28.92	-35:12:36.0	-0.115	-0.113	18.52	3.30	14.1	
NLTT 27188	11:22:26.44	-27:13:35.2	-0.320	0.063	13.32	1.93	NLTT 27182	11:22:23.60	-27:13:45.0	-0.302	0.066	14.94	2.42	39.1	l
PM I11263+2047Ee	11:26:21.55	+20:47:22.7	0.118	-0.193	13.34	2.18	PM I11263+2047Ew	11:26:20.37	+20:47:15.0	0.118	-0.193	17.37	3.61	18.2	
PM I11330+1318N	11:33:02.86	+13:18:33.2	-0.237	-0.010	9.41	1.13	PM I11330+1318S	11:33:03.95	+13:18:17.1	-0.227	0.008	15.98	3.19	22.7	
PM I11392-4118N	11:39:12.23	-41:18:15.1	-0.206	0.220	12.78	2.43	PM I11392-4118S	11:39:12.30	-41:18:26.2	-0.206	0.220	14.81	3.03	11.1	k
PM I11584-4155E	11:58:27.99	-41:55:19.3	-0.769	-0.266	9.00	1.67	PM I11584-4155W	11:58:26.46	-41:55:03.4	-0.766	-0.274	15.06	3.28	23.3	
PM I12170+0742E	12:17:05.76	+07:42:30.3	0.034	-0.158	15.25	1.70	PM I12170+0742W	12:17:04.98	+07:42:31.1	0.034	-0.158	18.40	2.98	11.6	l

Table 1
(Continued)

Primary							Secondary							Sep ^d	Notes
ID ^a	R.A.	Decl.	pmRA ^b	pmDEC ^b	V ^c	V − J ^c	ID ^a	R.A.	Decl.	pmRA ^b	pmDEC ^b	V ^c	V − J ^c		
PM I12237+0625	12:23:43.48	+06:25:10.3	−0.173	−0.021	14.06	2.20	PM I12237+0624	12:23:44.04	+06:24:48.4	−0.173	−0.021	18.52	3.89	23.4	
PM I12277+1334	12:27:43.78	+13:34:16.2	0.082	−0.248	16.12	2.34	PM I12277+1336	12:27:46.62	+13:36:37.0	0.077	−0.269	18.29	2.80	146.7	m
PM I12283+1222S	12:28:18.28	+12:22:36.4	−0.184	−0.127	12.67	1.27	PM I12283+1222N	12:28:18.75	+12:22:50.7	−0.160	−0.112	19.23	3.21	15.8	j
PM I12440+0625E	12:44:02.57	+06:25:46.9	0.065	−0.135	13.16	1.27	PM I12440+0625We	12:44:00.58	+06:25:48.3	0.065	−0.135	19.68	3.55	29.7	
PM I12508+0757	12:50:48.80	+07:57:56.7	0.047	−0.163	10.84	1.27	PM I12507+0758	12:50:47.08	+07:58:08.0	0.027	−0.151	18.14	3.89	28.0	
PM I13116+1106	13:11:41.81	+11:06:24.8	−0.102	−0.122	12.89	1.06	PM I13116+1105	13:11:32.30	+11:05:40.7	−0.106	−0.114	17.83	2.80	146.8	l
NLTT 33282	13:13:09.08	−07:42:15.2	−0.163	−0.196	15.04	2.15	NLTT 33283	13:13:09.60	−07:42:07.8	−0.159	−0.190	15.60	2.40	10.0	l
PM I13133-4153N	13:13:20.50	−41:53:14.0	−0.145	−0.044	13.65	2.07	PM I13133-4153S	13:13:21.15	−41:53:29.2	−0.145	−0.044	18.22	3.52	16.8	
PM I13167+0810E	13:16:47.28	+08:10:27.4	0.189	−0.146	11.16	1.66	PM I13167+0810W	13:16:45.12	+08:10:21.5	0.186	−0.130	18.47	4.08	32.7	
PM I13372-4244E	13:37:14.25	−42:44:54.8	0.129	−0.104	17.35	2.51	PM I13372-4244W	13:37:13.54	−42:44:54.4	0.129	−0.104	19.43	3.31	7.8	
PM I14055+0244S	14:05:30.97	+02:44:23.4	−0.055	−0.131	15.45	2.04	PM I14055+0244N	14:05:31.65	+02:44:35.1	−0.055	−0.131	20.60	4.10	15.5	
PM I14124+0517S	14:12:28.75	+05:17:28.5	−0.053	−0.172	13.29	1.39	PM I14124+0517N	14:12:28.04	+05:17:40.1	−0.053	−0.172	19.57	3.78	15.7	
PM I14136-3634E	14:13:41.61	−36:34:39.2	−0.030	−0.166	15.27	2.12	PM I14136-3634W	14:13:40.94	−36:34:43.6	−0.030	−0.166	17.91	2.68	9.1	
PM I14475+1134	14:47:35.80	+11:34:13.7	−0.049	−0.172	13.05	1.67	PM I14476+1134	14:47:36.16	+11:34:36.3	−0.049	−0.172	20.37	3.25	23.1	f, m
PM I15413+1349N	15:41:19.36	+13:49:28.5	−0.190	−0.529	14.73	2.63	PM I15413+1349S	15:41:19.36	+13:49:23.6	−0.190	−0.529	16.76	3.19	4.0	k
PM I16008+0146E	16:00:53.85	+01:46:16.5	−0.155	−0.132	13.25	1.98	PM I16008+0146W	16:00:53.48	+01:46:19.4	−0.155	−0.132	17.91	3.53	6.2	
PM I16519-4806N	16:51:58.19	−48:06:13.7	−0.150	−0.109	15.02	1.93	PM I16519-4806S	16:51:57.91	−48:06:19.2	−0.150	−0.109	17.31	3.09	6.2	
PM I17135+1909	17:13:30.36	+19:09:57.2	−0.116	−0.153	10.94	1.35	PM I17134+1910	17:13:29.74	+19:10:10.0	−0.124	−0.133	15.80	3.08	15.5	
PM I19207+0506S	19:20:46.74	+05:06:26.5	−0.060	−0.149	11.45	1.34	PM I19207+0506N	19:20:46.08	+05:06:38.5	−0.058	−0.140	17.42	2.96	15.4	
PM I19420+2014S	19:42:00.86	+20:14:05.0	−0.096	−0.125	15.83	2.12	PM I19420+2014N	19:42:00.88	+20:14:10.3	−0.096	−0.125	16.11	2.98	5.3	m
PM I20072-3519E	20:07:13.51	−35:19:50.0	−0.028	−0.187	15.73	1.78	PM I20072-3519W	20:07:13.20	−35:19:52.8	−0.028	−0.187	16.22	3.02	4.6	g, k
PM I20343+1151	20:34:22.72	+11:51:59.5	−0.144	−0.203	12.49	1.87	PM I20343+1152	20:34:22.56	+11:52:03.3	−0.144	−0.203	15.53	3.00	4.4	
NLTT 49474	20:34:31.48	−22:19:24.3	0.143	−0.108	11.12	1.24	NLTT 49477	20:34:33.49	−22:17:59.7	0.155	−0.119	18.19	3.40	89.1	
PM I20487+1406	20:48:42.08	+14:06:59.1	0.110	−0.051	14.89	1.72	PM I20487+1407	20:48:42.78	+14:07:01.3	0.110	−0.051	19.37	3.34	10.3	
PM I21175-4142E	21:17:32.29	−41:42:17.3	0.013	−0.157	13.89	1.74	PM I21175-4142W	21:17:31.42	−41:42:21.2	0.013	−0.157	17.64	2.84	10.5	
PM I21442+0102N	21:44:15.64	+01:02:09.1	−0.061	−0.248	13.80	1.71	PM I21442+0102S	21:44:15.92	+01:02:03.3	−0.061	−0.248	16.36	2.88	7.2	
PM I21536+0010S	21:53:39.95	+00:10:20.8	−0.061	−0.158	14.35	2.12	PM I21536+0010N	21:53:39.98	+00:10:37.2	−0.061	−0.158	19.87	3.66	16.4	
NLTT 52532	21:57:35.98	−03:28:09.2	0.169	−0.125	14.90	1.98	NLTT 52538	21:57:37.93	−03:28:32.3	0.169	−0.125	18.86	3.22	37.3	m
PM I22296+0620	22:29:41.07	+06:20:02.8	0.116	−0.021	13.87	2.45	PM I22297+0620W	22:29:42.75	+06:20:09.0	0.092	−0.026	18.80	3.50	25.9	
PM I22487-5613W	22:48:44.33	−56:13:37.0	0.145	−0.067	12.59	1.60	PM I22487-5613E	22:48:45.54	−56:13:44.0	0.145	−0.067	16.67	3.41	12.3	
PM I23033-5311	23:03:23.47	−53:11:23.1	0.148	−0.107	14.01	1.76	PM I23034-5311	23:03:25.79	−53:11:43.2	0.153	−0.098	18.94	3.63	29.0	
NLTT 57827	23:44:27.89	−30:55:16.9	0.190	−0.196	16.96	2.09	NLTT 57823	23:44:24.90	−30:55:26.2	0.190	−0.201	18.17	2.77	39.5	

Notes.

^a Source: PMI stars are binary candidates from the LSPM catalog (Lépine & Shara 2005); NLTT stars are halo binaries from Chanamé & Gould (2004).

^b Proper motion (in arcsec yr^{−1}) from the LSPM catalog for PMI stars and the rNLTT catalog for NLTT stars.

^c Apparent *V* magnitude from the LSPM catalog and the rNLTT catalog; *J* magnitude from 2MASS catalog (Skrutskie et al. 2006). Note that some of the *V* magnitudes from the LSPM catalog are from a preliminary version of the LSPM-South catalog, and thus might be different from the final version. We selected our sample based on the preliminary version and we therefore use those values here.

^d Angular separation (in arcsec) between the two components.

^e Three possible companions were identified in the preliminary version of the LSPM-South catalog but they are not included in the final version of the LSPM catalog because they are marginal detected on Palomar Sky Survey plates. These secondaries are designated with a “−2.”

^f Our initial selection found that PM I14475+1134 and PM I14476+1134 are a comoving pair. However, another star PM I14476+1133 actually has the same proper motion as the other two stars. We therefore think that this might be a triple system.

^g Pair PM I20072-3519E/PM I20072-3519W: PM I20072-3519E was assigned as the primary since its *V* magnitude is brighter than PM I20072-3519W in the LSPM catalog. However, our photometry in this work shows that PM I20072-3519W is actually brighter and bluer, so we take PM I20072-3519W as the primary and PM I20072-3519E as the secondary in Table 3 and Table 4.

^h Photometric measurements were not obtained for these four candidate pairs. We therefore did not include their photometry in Tables 3 and 4.

ⁱ Pair PM I04477-3044W/PM I04477-3044E is the same as NLTT 13968/NLTT 13970 in Chanamé & Gould (2004).

^j Pair PM I12283+1222S/PM I12283+1222N is the same as NLTT 30838/NLTT 30837 in Chanamé & Gould (2004).

^k The primaries of these pairs have (*V* − *J*) > 2.5 from our measurement and they are very likely to be M+M dwarf pairs.

^l The secondaries of these pairs have (*V* − *J*) < 2.8 from our measurement and they are very likely to be F/G/K+K dwarf pairs.

^m These pairs have slope *m* < 1.5 or *m* > 4 and therefore are unlikely to be real binaries. See Section 4.2 for more details.

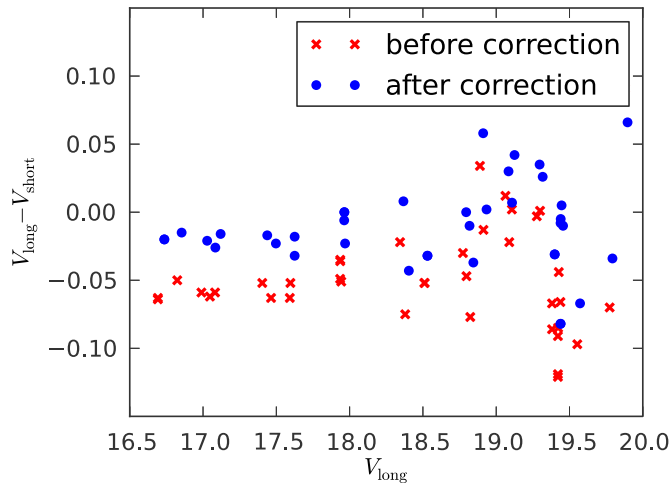


Figure 2. Comparison of the instrumental magnitudes in the V band of the same stars in two consecutive frames with different exposure times, 300 s and 30 s, before and after a linearity correction is applied. The red cross markers indicate that the difference is as large as 0.06 mag before the linearity correction. The blue filled circles show that the difference is about 0.01 mag after the linearity correction.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

version of the catalog because they are marginally detected on Palomar Sky Survey plates. However, our observations have indeed confirmed that these three pairs are co-moving objects, so they are included in this study. In Table 1, the secondaries of these three pairs are named with the same name as their primaries with a “-2” appended.

3. OBSERVATION AND DATA REDUCTION

Absolute photometry was obtained at Las Campanas Observatory on the 1 m Henrietta Swope Telescope on two observing runs in 2008 February and September. The SiTe#3 CCD detector ($0''.435 \text{ pixel}^{-1}$) with a standard *BVR* Johnson/Kron-Cousins filter set was used for both runs. Observations in *BVR* filters were obtained for each candidate. Optical photometric measurements of 76 of the 80 candidate pairs in the sample were obtained under photometric conditions during four nights in 2008 February and three nights in 2008 September. About half of the candidates have multiple observations that were obtained as a consistency check of the photometry. Since the primaries are generally 3–5 mag brighter than the secondaries, one long (100–300 s) exposure and one short (3–20 s) exposure were taken for most pairs so as to achieve a signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) > 30 for both primary & secondary stars. Landolt standard stars (Landolt 1992) were used to calibrate the photometry. A Landolt field was observed approximately once per hour on each photometric night. Care was taken to ensure the standard fields were observed at a wide range of air masses. Standard fields were selected to contain stars with a wide range of colors; in particular, many standard stars were observed with very red colors in order to better calibrate the M subdwarfs. It should be noted, however, that photometric calibration of very red stars using this technique is difficult due to the small number of red stars in Landolt’s catalog. For calibration purposes, both dome and twilight-sky flat fields were constructed each day.

The data were reduced with IRAF⁸ using standard CCD data reduction techniques. Each science frame was first bias-

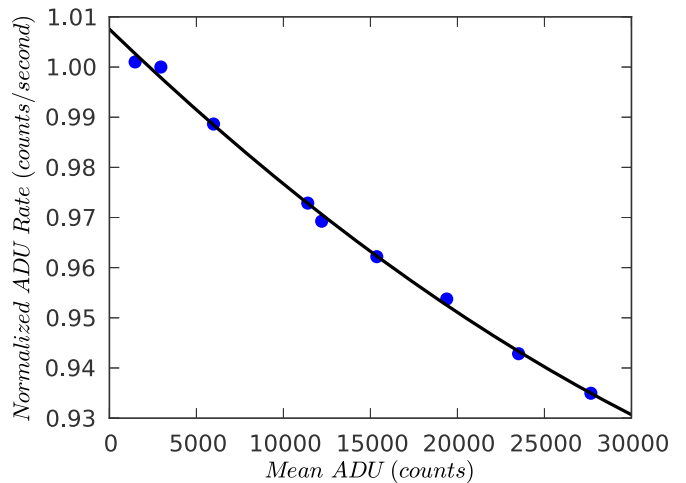


Figure 3. Linearity tests were performed using a sequence of images taken with increasing exposure times. The analog to digital unit (ADU) rate, counts per second, was normalized to the neighboring 8 s reference frame to compensate for the instability of the quartz lamp during the test. The normalized ADU rate is not a constant over all frames, which shows a nonlinearity problem for this CCD. We therefore fit the data to a second-order polynomial function and use that to correct each frame.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

subtracted and linearity corrected and a daily flat field was applied. The subtraction of a bias level is determined from the overscan columns.

We measure the nonlinearity of the detector by examining the instrumental magnitude of stars in two consecutive frames with different exposure times since we took shorter exposures for the primaries and longer exposures for the secondaries. The instrumental magnitudes of random stars in the same field measured from the longer exposure frame (300 s) were about 0.06 mag brighter than that from the shorter exposure frame (30 s), as shown in Figure 2. Therefore, a linearity correction was made for each frame using the IRAF utility *irlincor* with a conversion derived from a linearity test constructed once per observing run. The linearity test consists of a sequence of images taken with increasing exposure times (4, 8, 16, 8, 32, 8, 64, 8, ... s). A reference frame with 8 s was taken for every other exposure to compensate for the instability of the quartz lamp during the linearity test. Then the mean analog to digital units (or ADU) of each frame was computed and the ADU rate (i.e., counts per second) was normalized to the neighboring 8 s reference frame. Figure 3 shows this normalized ADU rate as a function of the mean ADU of each frame. The data are well fit by a second-order polynomial, with three fitting coefficients as the inputs to the IRAF command *irlincor*. However, there are still slight systematic errors of ≈ 0.015 mag in the bright stars, possibly due to the fact we do not have any linearity information below 2000 ADU. The linearity correction as described above was applied to each frame after the bias subtraction but before the flat field correction.

We also investigated the precision of shutter timing for the system. The instrument was commanded to take a 1 s exposure; actually, an exposure of 2.13–2.19 s was taken (as noted in the image header). We therefore only use images with exposures longer than 3 s in our analysis. We also examined the shutter timing effects on the shutter-correction frames constructed once per run: the shutter-correction frames were constructed with multiple exposures without reading each exposure out (i.e., 10×3 s, 6×5 s, 3×10 s, 2×15 s, 1×30 s). These tests

⁸ IRAF is distributed by the National Optical Astronomy Observatory, which is operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc., under cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation

Table 2
Nightly Photometric Solutions

Date	<i>B</i>			<i>V</i>			<i>R</i>			<i>I</i>		
	Zero Point	Extinction	Color	Zero Point	Extinction	Color	Zero Point	Extinction	Color	Zero Point	Extinction	Color
2008 Sep 10	-22.059	0.249	-0.055	-22.096	0.136	0.074	-22.253	0.098	-0.037	-21.719	0.051	-0.058
2008 Sep 11	-22.029	0.219	-0.046	-22.077	0.111	0.089	-22.231	0.078	-0.003	-21.695	0.033	-0.059
2008 Sep 12	-22.071	0.253	-0.051	-22.165	0.183	0.082	-22.335	0.160	-0.015	-21.798	0.110	-0.053
2008 Feb 4	-22.236	0.264	-0.050	-22.157	0.164	0.064	-22.314	0.134	-0.049	-21.801	0.054	-0.030
2008 Feb 5	-22.154	0.187	-0.036	-22.076	0.092	0.069	-22.230	0.054	-0.024	-21.751	0.024	-0.045
2008 Feb 7	-22.037	0.127	-0.013	-22.014	0.066	0.087	-22.163	0.033	0.008	-21.621	-0.047	-0.036
2008 Feb 8	-22.142	0.202	-0.027	-22.070	0.113	0.071	-22.213	0.077	-0.024	-21.713	0.024	-0.040

show that exposures equal to or longer than 3 s have minimal shutter timing effect ($<1\%$) and therefore we did not apply the shutter correction to any frame.

Several nights of data were reduced with both dome and sky flat fields, and the results of the standard star photometry using both flat fields were compared. Data reduced using dome flat fields had a smaller scatter in the fit to the standard stars than those reduced with the twilight-sky flat fields and therefore all the data were reduced using only dome flat fields.

Aperture photometry was performed on the standard star and program star observations after the bias subtraction, linearity, and flat field correction. Different aperture sizes were tested using the standard stars to derive a photometric solution; a $6''.5$ radius (15 pixels) yields the smallest residual in the fit; therefore a $6''.5$ radius was used for all photometric data reduction. Most of the binaries have a separation of $5''$ – $15''$. In order to minimize the effect of light from the primary extending into the sky annulus of the secondary, an inner radius for the sky annulus was set to be $26''.1$ (60 pixel) and the width to be $2''.2$ (5 pixel). Few pairs have a separation of about $20''$ – $30''$; the inner radius of sky annulus was set to be $13''.0$ for those pairs.

An aperture correction was applied to all program stars using the *apcor* task in IRAF. For each frame, about 10 bright but unsaturated and uncrowded stars were selected and used as a template for the aperture correction. This procedure was important for this work, particularly to derive reliable photometry for the secondaries since the secondaries are much fainter than the primaries and the angular separations of the binaries are small. We first tested the aperture correction procedure on the standard star field and found that the difference with and without aperture correction on the standard star field is almost negligible. Therefore we believe that the aperture correction does not introduce any errors into the photometry of the program stars. For about 75% of the pairs, photometric measurements of target stars were obtained using a $2''.6$ (6 pixel) radius aperture, which was then corrected to a $6''.5$ radius aperture, the aperture size used for the standard star photometry. For the remaining quarter of the pairs (those separations less than $8''$), a $1''.7$ (4 pixel) radius aperture size was used to minimize contamination from the bright primaries.

The measured *BVRI* instrumental magnitude of all standard stars observed during each night was used to derive a photometric solution for each night with a photometric zero point, a first-order extinction term, and a color term. On every night there were insufficient statistics to detect a second-order extinction coefficient; this term was held constant at zero. We also followed the suggestions of Harris et al. (1981) to solve for a new photometry solution over multiple nights: we averaged the previously derived color coefficients over each run and fed them back into the IRAF utility to fit for a new photometric zero point and extinction coefficient. The photometry derived from

this new solution has a negligible difference (<0.015 mag in *R* band and <0.01 mag in *BVI* band) from that derived from the previous solution; we therefore keep the previous one. The photometric solutions for each night are shown in Table 2. Finally, the photometric solutions derived from the standard stars on each night were applied to all candidates.

4. RESULTS

4.1. *BVRI* Photometry and Errors

Photometric measurements were obtained for 76 of the 80 candidate pairs. We report the *BVRI* photometry of observed primaries in Table 3 and secondaries in Table 4. In Table 3 (Table 4), Column 1 gives the name of the primary (or secondary) in the rNLTT catalog or LSPM catalog. Columns 2–9 present the *BVRI* photometry for primaries (secondaries) measured in this program and their errors (more details are provided later in this section). Columns 10–12 list the *JHK* photometry for primaries (secondaries) from 2MASS (Skrutskie et al. 2006). Column 13 gives the number of measurements of each primary (secondary), while Column 14 contains side notes. Multiple (i.e., two or more) observations were obtained of 75 targets among the 154 stars. When only one measurement of a target was obtained, the value from that measurement is reported. Photometry of stars with multiple measurements is determined by taking the overall average of the photometric measurements for that star.

We were unable to derive reliable photometry for seven primaries since they are too bright for our instrumental setup and were saturated in one or several bands (usually the *i* band) even with the shortest exposure time. For one pair, PM I20072-3519E & PM I20072-3519W, PM I20072-3519E was originally assigned to be the primary since its *V* magnitude is brighter than that of PM I20072-3519W in the LSPM catalog. However, our photometry in this work shows that PM I20072-3519W is actually brighter and bluer, so we take PM I20072-3519W as the primary in Table 3 and PM I20072-3519E as the secondary in Table 4. Also, the photometry from our measurements shows eight pairs with primaries having $(V - J) > 2.5$ and they are very likely to be M+M dwarf pairs as well as seven pairs with secondaries having $(V - J) < 2.8$ and they are probably F/G/K+K pairs; we listed these pairs in Table 1 (see footnotes *k* and *l*).

There are two types of errors considered in this program: systematic and statistical. There are several sources of systematic error in the measurements: cosmic rays or bad pixels may contaminate the measurements, the nonlinearity issue mentioned previously may still have some residual effect even after the correction, and the variation in the atmospheric conditions could also affect the fit to the standard star photometry and therefore increase the photometric errors. In this work, we take the standard deviation of the residual in the fit to the standard stars as the

Table 3
BVRI Photometry of Primaries

Primary ID	<i>V</i>	$\sigma(V)$	<i>B</i> − <i>V</i>	$\sigma(B - V)$	<i>V</i> − <i>R</i>	$\sigma(V - R)$	<i>V</i> − <i>I</i>	$\sigma(V - I)$	<i>J</i> ^a	<i>H</i> ^a	<i>K</i> ^a	# Visits	Notes
PM I00025-4644	16.501	0.023	1.182	0.029	0.757	0.024	1.335	0.028	14.228	13.595	13.451	2	
PM I00329+1805	16.326	0.023	1.389	0.031	0.891	0.025	1.682	0.028	13.641	12.970	12.764	1	
PM I00422+0731E	14.878	0.023	0.837	0.027	0.527	0.024	0.994	0.028	13.169	12.663	12.581	2	
PM I00592+0705N	13.861	0.023	0.665	0.027	0.373	0.024	0.737	0.028	12.577	12.239	12.179	1	
NLTT 3847	15.445	0.023	1.489	0.030	1.085	0.025	2.432	0.028	11.666	11.183	10.975	1	
PM I01227+1409	10.170	0.023	0.536	0.027	0.348	0.024	0.666	0.028	9.060	8.770	8.692	1	
PM I01266-4842W	14.202	0.023	1.266	0.027	0.835	0.024	1.624	0.028	11.536	10.862	10.734	1	
NLTT 4817	11.355	0.023	0.487	0.027	0.356	0.024	0.663	0.028	10.257	9.972	9.906	1	
PM I01352+0538N	10.806	0.023	0.744	0.027	0.464	0.024	...	...	9.260	8.793	8.698	1	b
PM I01430-4959W	14.467	0.023	0.786	0.027	0.508	0.024	0.913	0.028	12.866	12.378	12.337	1	
NLTT 8753	16.829	0.024	1.453	0.030	0.952	0.025	1.772	0.029	13.973	13.466	13.266	1	
PM I02569-5831N	13.814	0.023	1.113	0.028	0.744	0.024	1.378	0.028	11.528	10.898	10.796	1	
PM I03150+0102	10.214	0.023	0.684	0.027	0.391	0.024	...	...	8.905	8.455	8.451	1	b
PM I03256-3333E	14.824	0.023	1.124	0.027	0.737	0.024	1.421	0.028	12.510	11.847	11.721	1	
NLTT 12296	14.641	0.023	0.976	0.027	0.658	0.024	...	...	12.682	12.121	12.009	1	b
PM I04072+1526N	10.252	0.023	0.695	0.027	0.407	0.024	0.718	0.028	8.972	8.610	8.549	1	
PM I04099+0942E	14.294	0.023	0.945	0.027	0.606	0.024	1.165	0.028	12.274	11.728	11.617	1	
PM I04254-4601	14.495	0.023	0.816	0.027	0.503	0.024	0.981	0.028	12.837	12.379	12.244	1	
PM I04325-5657N	12.241	0.023	0.687	0.028	0.402	0.024	0.783	0.028	10.879	10.506	10.446	1	
PM I04327+0820	13.942	0.024	0.617	0.028	0.490	0.025	0.873	0.029	12.360	11.973	11.867	1	
PM I04332+0013	11.432	0.023	0.646	0.027	0.368	0.024	0.705	0.028	10.207	9.854	9.778	1	
PM I04477-3044	11.619	0.023	0.632	0.027	0.414	0.024	0.810	0.028	10.277	9.922	9.898	2	
NLTT 14407	11.661	0.023	1.114	0.027	0.686	0.024	1.252	0.028	9.611	9.037	8.888	1	
PM I05137+0647W	12.288	0.024	0.629	0.029	0.484	0.025	0.846	0.029	10.893	10.536	10.496	1	
PM I05195+0903E	14.207	0.023	0.830	0.027	0.523	0.024	1.023	0.028	12.415	12.021	11.912	1	
PM I05484-3617Nn	14.607	0.023	0.827	0.027	0.505	0.024	0.973	0.028	12.986	12.520	12.391	1	
PM I06032+1921N	9.289	0.023	0.580	0.027	...	...	...	...	8.001	7.695	7.583	1	b
PM I06050+0723S	15.433	0.023	1.392	0.027	0.903	0.024	1.682	0.028	12.767	12.169	11.959	2	
PM I06394-3030E	15.275	0.023	1.414	0.027	0.908	0.024	1.734	0.028	12.572	12.062	11.818	2	
PM I06436+0851	14.124	0.023	1.194	0.028	0.852	0.026	1.472	0.029	11.701	11.110	11.001	2	
PM I08152-6337	12.084	0.023	1.139	0.027	0.727	0.024	1.303	0.028	9.957	9.366	9.248	4	
PM I08239-7549W	10.960	0.023	0.833	0.027	0.479	0.024	0.863	0.028	9.534	9.078	8.992	1	
PM I08386-3856	12.384	0.023	0.889	0.028	0.538	0.024	1.026	0.028	10.727	10.209	10.146	1	
PM I09502+0509E	11.673	0.023	0.805	0.027	0.474	0.024	0.923	0.028	10.195	9.706	9.615	1	
PM I10105+1203W	12.554	0.023	0.785	0.027	0.470	0.024	0.917	0.028	10.975	10.488	10.418	2	
PM I10520+1521N	16.024	0.023	1.115	0.027	0.725	0.024	1.338	0.028	13.862	13.281	13.117	2	
PM I11110-4414	12.841	0.023	0.723	0.027	0.439	0.024	0.857	0.028	11.409	11.009	10.891	2	
PM I11125-3512	15.125	0.023	1.035	0.027	0.629	0.024	1.195	0.028	13.099	12.523	12.433	2	
NLTT 27188	12.550	0.023	0.538	0.027	0.343	0.024	0.697	0.028	11.392	11.054	11.008	1	
PM I11263+2047Ee	13.453	0.023	1.155	0.027	0.762	0.024	1.400	0.028	11.164	10.534	10.404	2	
PM I11330+1318N	9.400	0.023	0.621	0.027	0.380	0.024	...	...	8.281	7.976	7.895	1	b
PM I11392-4118N	13.244	0.023	1.424	0.027	0.929	0.024	1.847	0.028	10.354	9.713	9.513	2	
PM I11584-4155E	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.330	6.878	6.812	0	b
PM I12170+0742E	15.055	0.023	0.759	0.027	0.475	0.024	0.899	0.028	13.550	13.046	13.025	2	
PM I12237+0625	13.802	0.024	0.979	0.028	0.649	0.025	1.185	0.028	11.864	11.213	11.132	2	
PM I12277+1334	15.947	0.023	1.102	0.028	0.719	0.024	1.330	0.028	13.779	13.199	13.000	1	
PM I12283+1222S	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.398	11.115	11.073	0	b
PM I12440+0625E	12.937	0.023	0.454	0.028	0.305	0.025	0.621	0.028	11.890	11.630	11.555	1	
PM I12508+0757	10.666	0.023	0.567	0.027	0.346	0.024	0.690	0.028	9.572	9.256	9.179	2	
PM I13116+1106	12.933	0.023	0.518	0.028	0.352	0.025	0.678	0.028	11.830	11.507	11.451	1	
NLTT 33282	15.404	0.023	1.331	0.028	0.811	0.025	1.547	0.028	12.920	12.295	12.093	2	
PM I13133-4153N	13.529	0.023	0.970	0.028	0.624	0.024	1.176	0.028	11.578	10.954	10.892	2	
PM I13167+0810E	11.062	0.023	0.847	0.028	0.509	0.024	0.948	0.028	9.498	9.002	8.904	1	
PM I13372-4244E	17.200	0.027	1.368	0.062	0.838	0.028	1.483	0.032	14.841	14.186	13.945	1	
PM I14055+0244S	15.479	0.023	1.039	0.027	0.689	0.024	1.237	0.028	13.409	12.858	12.784	1	
PM I14124+0517S	13.275	0.023	0.717	0.028	0.414	0.025	0.825	0.028	11.902	11.496	11.424	1	
PM I14136-3634E	15.190	0.023	1.037	0.027	0.645	0.024	1.236	0.028	13.152	12.590	12.430	1	
PM I14475+1134	12.792	0.023	0.741	0.028	0.439	0.025	0.836	0.028	11.375	10.988	10.908	1	
PM I15413+1349N	15.145	0.024	1.474	0.032	0.944	0.025	1.919	0.029	12.105	11.549	11.325	1	
PM I16008+0146E	13.262	0.023	0.881	0.027	0.665	0.024	1.170	0.028	11.272	10.719	10.597	2	
PM I16519-4806N	15.420	0.023	1.077	0.027	0.729	0.024	1.337	0.028	13.094	12.551	12.409	2	
PM I17135+1909	11.051	0.023	0.759	0.027	0.497	0.024	0.882	0.028	9.593	9.163	9.107	1	
PM I19207+0506S	11.336	0.023	0.582	0.027	0.368	0.024	0.704	0.028	10.110	9.801	9.767	2	
PM I19420+2014S	16.621	0.024	1.385	0.034	0.927	0.026	1.809	0.029	13.714	13.081	12.882	2	
PM I20072-3519W	17.011	0.027	1.541	0.045	1.080	0.029	2.426	0.031	13.199	12.636	12.398	2	
PM I20343+1151	12.300	0.023	0.884	0.027	0.539	0.024	0.977	0.028	10.624	10.141	10.044	2	

Table 3
(Continued)

Primary ID	V	$\sigma(V)$	$B - V$	$\sigma(B - V)$	$V - R$	$\sigma(V - R)$	$V - I$	$\sigma(V - I)$	J^a	H^a	K^a	# Visits	Notes
NLTT 49474	11.047	0.023	0.573	0.027	0.352	0.024	0.691	0.028	9.882	9.541	9.519	2	
PM I20487+1406	15.420	0.023	1.151	0.027	0.740	0.024	1.367	0.028	13.172	12.565	12.399	2	
PM I21175-4142E	13.620	0.023	0.731	0.027	0.415	0.024	0.851	0.028	12.148	11.779	11.684	2	
PM I21442+0102N	14.468	0.023	1.199	0.027	0.782	0.024	1.434	0.028	12.091	11.452	11.323	2	
PM I21536+0010S	14.032	0.023	0.838	0.027	0.536	0.024	1.051	0.028	12.234	11.776	11.639	2	
NLTT 52532	15.538	0.023	1.360	0.028	0.863	0.024	1.609	0.028	12.930	12.383	12.179	2	
PM I22296+0620	13.716	0.023	1.118	0.027	0.715	0.024	1.351	0.028	11.424	10.851	10.707	2	
PM I22487-5613W	12.700	0.023	0.902	0.028	0.541	0.024	0.978	0.028	10.989	10.511	10.417	2	
PM I23033-5311	13.389	0.023	0.522	0.027	0.331	0.024	0.662	0.028	12.249	11.911	11.848	2	
NLTT 57827	17.154	0.024	1.166	0.031	0.735	0.025	1.367	0.029	14.887	14.385	14.179	2	

Notes.^a *JHK* photometry are from the 2MASS catalog (Skrutskie et al. 2006).^b Photometry was not measured for one or more colors.

systematic error since the S/Ns from those standard star measurements are adequately large. This scatter from the standard star fitting is almost the same from night to night; we therefore use the average standard deviations of the residuals from the fit to represent the systematic error in this program. They are 0.023, 0.027, 0.024, 0.028 mag in V , $B - V$, $V - R$, and $V - I$, respectively. However, most Landolt standards are bluer than the secondaries in our sample, so the systematic errors on the secondaries are potentially larger than the scatter from the standard star fitting.

IRAF computes errors for each photometric measurement made using the *phot* package. These errors are based on the number of electrons recorded by the detector and decrease as the S/N of the measurements increases. We therefore take the error reported by IRAF as the statistical error. Since the sample has $9 < V < 21$ mag, the statistical error, $\sigma(V)$, also varies from 0.001 mag ($V \sim 10$ mag) to 0.25 mag ($V \sim 20$ mag) based on magnitude. The top panel of Figure 4 shows the statistical error of V band photometry as a function of V magnitude; we note the expected trend of increased error for the fainter stars. The secondaries in our sample are generally faint, red, M dwarfs; they are therefore quite faint in the B filter and the statistical error of $B - V$ can be as large as one magnitude for some of the faint secondaries.

We tested the appropriateness of the estimated errors by comparing photometric measurements of the stars that have more than one measurement. The bottom panel of Figure 4 plots the standard deviation of the multiple measurements for 75 stars as a function of the measured V magnitude. This standard deviation shows a similar trend as the error derived from the IRAF measurements shown in the top panel of Figure 4. For $V < 16$, where the statistical errors are negligible, the standard deviation of multiple measurements is about 0.01–0.02 mag, which matches the systematic errors $\sigma(V) \sim 0.023$. For $V > 18$, the standard deviation of the multiple measurements gets larger since the errors are dominated by the statistical errors for faint stars. This shows that the error from IRAF is a good estimate of the statistical error.

The final error for a given candidate is reported in Table 3 or 4 as the statistical error and the systematic error added in quadrature.

4.2. Comparison with the Previously Published Photometry and an Improved RPM Diagram

Figure 5 compares the V magnitude of the observed candidates to the photometry presented in the previously published

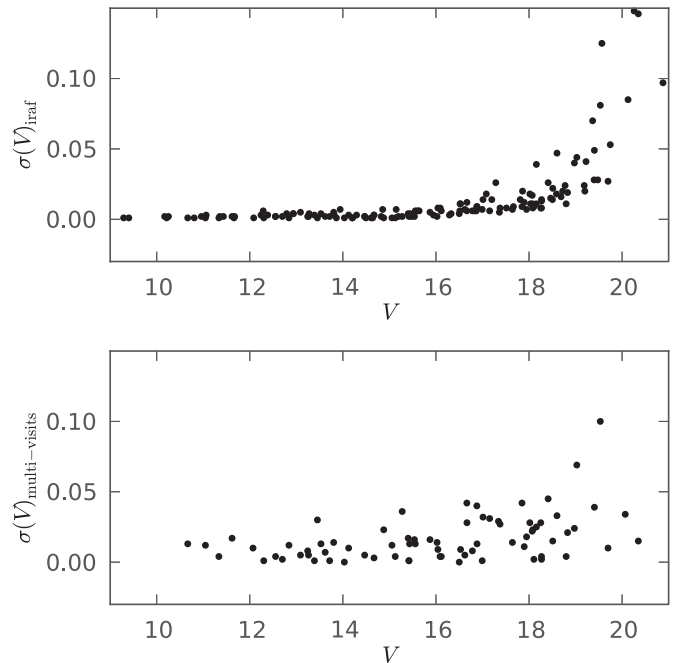


Figure 4. Top panel: the statistical errors of V photometry as a function of V magnitude. Photometric errors increase for fainter stars with lower S/N. Bottom panel: standard deviations of the photometry for the 75 stars having multiple measurements as a function of V magnitude. The standard deviations have a similar trend as the errors from the top panel but they are larger for brighter stars since the standard deviations are dominated by the systematic errors for $V < 16$ mag.

catalogs. In both the rNLTT and LSPM catalog, the photometry is taken from the Tycho-2 catalog for most stars with $V < 12$ mag; the remaining photometry is taken from the USNO-A for rNLTT and USNO-B1.0 for LSPM catalog. Seventeen primaries have $V < 12$ mag. The standard deviation of the difference between this work and the previously published photometry for these 17 stars is 0.098 mag, which is consistent with the Tycho-2 photometric errors of 0.10 mag (Høg et al. 2000). The difference between the photometry presented here and the previously published photometry has a scatter of 0.52 mag for the whole sample. This is not surprising since the composite V photometry from the rNLTT catalog and the LSPM catalog has photometric errors of about 0.45 mag (USNO-A and USNO-B catalogs has photometry errors of 0.3 mag in each band, Monet 2003).

Table 4
BVR Photometry of Secondaries

Secondary ID	<i>V</i>	$\sigma(V)$	<i>B</i> − <i>V</i>	$\sigma(B - V)$	<i>V</i> − <i>R</i>	$\sigma(V - R)$	<i>V</i> − <i>I</i>	$\sigma(V - I)$	<i>J</i> ^a	<i>H</i> ^a	<i>K</i> ^a	# Visits	Notes
PM I00026-4644	20.349	0.148	2.132	0.909	0.955	0.151	2.098	0.143	16.952	16.173	15.917	2	
PM I00329+1805-2	20.933	0.247	1.557	0.961	1.235	0.248	2.993	0.236	16.156	16.016	15.424	1	
PM I00422+0731W	18.975	0.046	1.630	0.178	0.919	0.048	1.880	0.048	15.922	15.524	14.923	2	
PM I00592+0705S	19.367	0.074	1.758	0.302	1.133	0.075	2.275	0.073	15.753	15.332	15.076	1	
NLTT 3849	15.639	0.024	1.484	0.031	1.114	0.025	2.509	0.029	11.752	11.275	11.052	1	
PM I01226+1409E	19.225	0.047	2.000	0.227	1.239	0.048	2.777	0.049	15.006	14.563	14.169	1	
PM I01266-4842E	18.723	0.030	1.632	0.083	1.232	0.033	2.784	0.036	14.432	13.938	13.701	1	
NLTT 4814	16.518	0.025	1.405	0.037	0.953	0.027	1.776	0.030	13.712	13.157	12.938	1	
PM I01352+0538S	17.082	0.029	1.542	0.047	1.150	0.031	2.654	0.033	12.968	12.479	12.271	1	
PM I01430-4959E	18.072	0.025	1.425	0.040	0.956	0.027	1.784	0.031	15.258	14.767	14.532	1	
NLTT 8759	17.665	0.025	1.627	0.037	1.070	0.026	2.080	0.030	14.434	13.881	13.673	1	
PM I02569-5831S	20.879	0.100	2.236	0.505	1.406	0.100	3.327	0.097	15.989	15.195	15.118	1	
PM I03150+0103	14.669	0.023	1.483	0.028	0.930	0.025	1.958	0.029	11.622	11.043	10.855	1	
PM I03256-3333Wn	16.290	0.023	1.351	0.028	0.864	0.024	1.658	0.029	13.639	13.010	12.845	1	
NLTT 12294	18.503	0.027	1.558	0.048	1.053	0.029	2.045	0.032	15.260	14.786	14.518	1	
PM I04072+1526S	18.828	0.030	1.723	0.062	1.309	0.033	3.033	0.034	14.260	13.693	13.449	2	
PM I04099+0942W	15.608	0.024	1.263	0.028	0.726	0.025	1.428	0.029	13.170	12.531	12.351	1	
PM I04255-4601	19.477	0.036	1.390	0.081	0.967	0.040	2.005	0.044	16.408	15.911	15.317	1	
PM I04325-5657S	16.867	0.024	1.452	0.030	0.970	0.026	2.062	0.029	13.650	13.179	12.888	1	
PM I04327+0820-2	20.259	0.150	1.201	0.495	1.194	0.153	2.248	0.146	16.796	16.097	15.993	1	
PM I04333+0014	16.513	0.024	1.565	0.030	0.985	0.026	2.042	0.029	13.336	12.779	12.580	1	
PM I04477-3044E	18.775	0.033	1.582	0.074	1.165	0.037	2.591	0.038	15.041	14.533	14.353	1	
NLTT 14408	14.855	0.024	1.524	0.030	1.015	0.025	2.093	0.029	11.646	11.143	10.939	1	
PM I05137+0647E	19.132	0.049	1.655	0.105	1.228	0.051	2.637	0.048	15.161	14.606	14.292	1	
PM I05195+0903W	17.861	0.030	1.569	0.081	0.961	0.031	1.829	0.034	14.879	14.330	14.030	1	
PM I05484-3617S	18.465	0.027	1.517	0.047	0.975	0.029	1.928	0.033	15.488	15.020	14.674	1	
PM I06032+1921S	13.089	0.024	1.244	0.029	0.890	0.025	1.599	0.028	10.587	10.011	9.822	2	
PM I06050+0723N	16.994	0.024	1.592	0.030	1.003	0.026	2.006	0.029	13.838	13.293	13.084	2	
PM I06394-3030W	16.664	0.024	1.545	0.029	0.984	0.025	1.911	0.029	13.688	13.209	12.998	2	
PM I06436+0851-2	19.698	0.035	1.574	0.083	1.342	0.038	3.116	0.039	15.129	14.593	14.396	2	
PM I08153-6337	17.364	0.024	1.701	0.029	1.209	0.025	2.708	0.028	13.237	12.672	12.402	4	
PM I08239-7549E	17.811	0.027	1.699	0.134	1.303	0.119	3.029	0.118	13.227	12.676	12.388	1	
PM I08386-3857	17.643	0.024	1.597	0.031	1.125	0.025	2.514	0.029	13.845	13.349	13.161	2	
PM I09502+0509W	18.590	0.029	1.724	0.060	1.215	0.033	2.774	0.034	14.566	13.995	13.811	1	
PM I10105+1203E	17.849	0.025	1.542	0.125	1.093	0.113	2.267	0.114	14.374	13.793	13.633	1	
PM I10520+1521S	17.947	0.024	1.447	0.032	0.932	0.026	1.813	0.030	15.123	14.547	14.438	2	
PM I11109-4416	16.115	0.024	1.402	0.028	0.889	0.025	1.686	0.029	13.413	12.879	12.661	2	
PM I11124-3512	18.798	0.025	1.664	0.043	1.080	0.027	2.318	0.031	15.222	14.643	14.368	2	
NLTT 27182	14.669	0.023	1.026	0.027	0.660	0.024	1.285	0.028	12.521	11.943	11.824	1	
PM I11263+2047Ew	17.377	0.024	1.594	0.031	1.079	0.026	2.393	0.030	13.762	13.267	13.035	2	
PM I11330+1318S	16.879	0.025	1.595	0.033	1.192	0.026	2.728	0.030	12.791	12.184	11.917	1	
PM I11392-4118S	15.556	0.024	1.559	0.029	1.108	0.025	2.470	0.029	11.783	11.164	10.919	2	
PM I11584-4155W	16.042	0.024	1.678	0.032	1.212	0.026	2.819	0.029	11.777	11.293	11.038	2	
PM I12170+0742W	18.080	0.024	1.337	0.032	0.859	0.026	1.586	0.030	15.418	14.929	14.886	2	
PM I12237+0624	18.252	0.024	1.578	0.036	1.081	0.026	2.386	0.030	14.631	14.166	13.799	2	
PM I12277+1336	18.156	0.025	1.452	0.038	0.929	0.027	1.744	0.030	15.495	14.808	14.643	1	
PM I12283+1222N	19.200	0.030	1.583	0.060	1.045	0.033	2.047	0.036	16.024	15.374	15.592	1	
PM I12440+0625We	19.186	0.033	1.435	0.069	0.949	0.037	1.831	0.040	16.131	15.624	15.476	1	
PM I12507+0758	18.105	0.025	1.636	0.036	1.134	0.026	2.544	0.030	14.250	13.738	13.511	2	
PM I13116+1105	17.515	0.024	1.321	0.032	0.864	0.026	1.536	0.030	15.028	14.479	14.303	1	
NLTT 33283	15.872	0.024	1.441	0.029	0.864	0.025	1.657	0.029	13.228	12.633	12.428	2	
PM I13133-4153S	18.268	0.024	1.695	0.037	1.076	0.026	2.340	0.030	14.701	14.204	13.979	2	
PM I13167+0810W	19.231	0.049	1.853	0.129	1.405	0.059	3.245	0.051	14.393	13.863	13.570	1	
PM I13372-4244W	19.566	0.127	1.757	0.661	1.135	0.129	1.964	0.127	16.120	15.880	15.630	1	
PM I14055+0244N	20.128	0.088	1.880	0.298	1.126	0.102	2.466	0.091	16.502	16.379	15.847	1	
PM I14124+0517N	19.399	0.036	1.409	0.077	1.135	0.039	2.394	0.041	15.786	15.347	15.170	1	
PM I14136-3634W	18.033	0.025	1.463	0.039	0.963	0.027	1.874	0.030	15.225	14.559	14.405	1	
PM I14476+1133	19.746	0.058	1.847	0.192	0.943	0.066	1.924	0.073	17.060	16.197	16.131	1	
PM I15413+1349S	17.286	0.035	1.267	0.083	1.308	0.037	2.419	0.038	13.572	13.014	12.833	1	
PM I16008+0146W	17.897	0.026	1.653	0.059	1.109	0.027	2.260	0.030	14.383	13.788	13.656	2	
PM I16519-4806S	18.411	0.035	1.820	0.087	1.173	0.038	2.158	0.040	14.220	13.191	12.770	2	
PM I17134+1910	16.529	0.025	1.579	0.040	1.100	0.027	2.447	0.030	12.715	12.154	11.969	2	
PM I19207+0506N	18.018	0.029	1.697	0.063	1.086	0.031	2.261	0.033	14.456	13.915	13.585	2	
PM I19420+2014N	16.883	0.025	1.562	0.040	1.111	0.026	2.397	0.030	13.132	12.519	12.313	2	
PM I20072-3519E	18.158	0.045	1.616	0.106	1.198	0.048	2.680	0.047	13.950	13.411	13.199	2	
PM I20343+1152	16.092	0.024	1.188	0.111	1.287	0.113	2.328	0.113	12.535	11.939	11.702	1	

Table 4
(Continued)

Secondary ID	V	$\sigma(V)$	$B - V$	$\sigma(B - V)$	$V - R$	$\sigma(V - R)$	$V - I$	$\sigma(V - I)$	J^a	H^a	K^a	# Visits	Notes
NLTT 49477	18.601	0.052	1.984	0.211	1.113	0.055	2.502	0.054	14.789	14.222	14.027	2	
PM I20487+1407	19.405	0.054	1.693	0.210	1.117	0.057	2.224	0.056	16.026	15.475	15.054	2	
PM I21175-4142W	18.069	0.029	1.435	0.064	0.997	0.030	2.097	0.033	14.804	14.223	13.949	2	
PM I21442+0102S	16.666	0.026	1.494	0.037	0.973	0.027	2.032	0.030	13.476	12.921	12.715	2	
PM I21536+0010N	19.532	0.084	1.576	0.298	1.190	0.100	2.214	0.108	16.206	15.621	15.374	2	
NLTT 52538	19.027	0.050	1.761	0.201	1.065	0.052	2.136	0.050	15.693	15.357	14.804	2	
PM I22297+0620W	20.068	0.272	1.916	1.912	1.426	0.291	3.107	0.261	15.303	14.775	14.437	2	
PM I22487-5613E	16.783	0.024	1.501	0.031	1.018	0.025	2.223	0.029	13.255	12.685	12.442	2	
PM I23034-5311	18.510	0.032	1.439	0.080	1.016	0.033	2.028	0.036	15.305	14.810	14.499	2	
NLTT 57823	18.269	0.027	1.441	0.054	0.892	0.029	1.665	0.032	15.421	15.064	14.749	2	

Note. ^a JHK photometry are from the 2MASS catalog (Skrutskie et al. 2006).

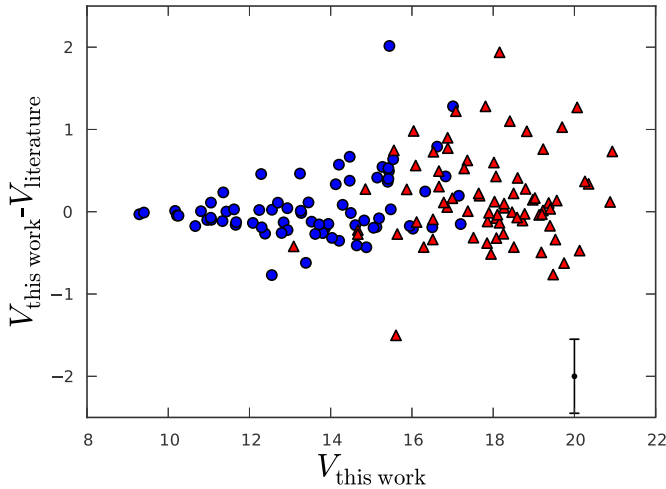


Figure 5. Comparison of the V magnitude of the observed candidates to that of previously published photometry. Symbols are the same as in Figure 1. Primaries that have $V < 12$ mag have a standard deviation of the difference of 0.098 mag, consistent with the Tycho-2 photometric errors of 0.10 mag (Høg et al. 2000). The difference for the total sample has a scatter of 0.52 mag in rms. This is also consistent with the rNLTT catalog and LSPM catalog photometric errors of about 0.45 mag in composite V photometry, which is shown in the lower right corner.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

An improved RPM diagram constructed from the photometry presented in this work is given in Figure 6. Again, the J magnitude is from the 2MASS catalog. Seventy-four pairs have new measured photometry in V for both primaries and secondaries and are plotted here. As in Figure 1, a line connects the primary and secondary of each pair. Since we have selected common proper motion pairs whose two members are likely wide binaries and share the same metallicity, one expects that the line connecting their positions on the RPM diagram should be approximately parallel to the corresponding MS or SD track (i.e., slope $m \approx 3.1$ as in Equation (1)). Some “pairs” do not follow this “parallel rule”; these could have a WD or evolved companion (see, e.g., Chanamé & Gould 2004), or they could be co-moving pairs that are not actual wide binaries but just chance alignments on the sky. A histogram of the slopes of the connected lines, m , is plotted in the top panel of Figure 7. Six pairs with slope $m < 1.5$ or $m > 4$ are unlikely to be binaries (and are marked as crosses in Figure 6) and we do not consider them further in this work. We also listed these six pairs in Table 1 (see footnote m). Please note these criteria are arbitrarily selected for this sample since the majority of the slopes fall

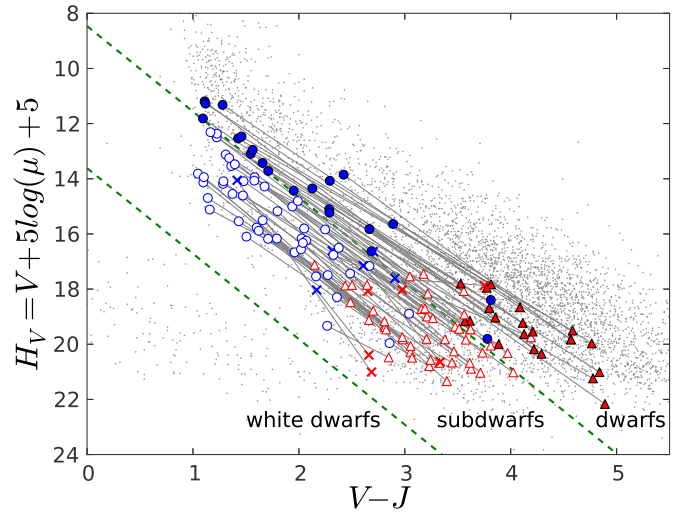


Figure 6. RPM diagram of the 74 pairs having improved V photometry for both primaries (blue) and secondaries (red). A line connects the primary and secondary of each pair and the slope of each connected line is calculated. Six pairs with slopes $m < 1.5$ or $m > 4$ are unlikely to be pairs composed of two stars that have similar metallicities. These six pairs are plotted as crosses. Among the remaining 68 pairs after removal of the potential non-binaries, 21 pairs that have primaries above the discriminator line $\eta = 0$ (dwarfs) are plotted as filled circles (primaries) and triangles (secondaries); 47 pairs that have primaries below the discriminator line $\eta = 0$ (subdwarfs), are plotted as open circles (primaries) and triangles (secondaries). Overplotted gray dots are stars from the LSPM-North catalog.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

between $1.5 < m < 4$. The remaining 68 pairs are identified as most likely to be “true” binaries, and are thus most likely to have the same metallicities for each pair. These potential F/G/K+M pairs will be the targets for a future spectroscopic study in which we will calibrate the metallicity of metal-poor M dwarfs (i.e., the M subdwarfs). In this future work, the assumption of a true binary pair will be further tested by measuring the radial velocities of both stars in each binary.

As mentioned earlier, considering the large errors of the previously published photometry, we made a loose cut to include all potential subdwarf candidates since the ultimate goal of this work was to provide a metallicity calibration for metal-poor M subdwarfs. As a result, about 30% of the pairs still lie above the MS and SD discriminator line $\eta = 0$ (see Equation (1)) in the improved RPM diagram, which implies that they are likely to be dwarfs rather than subdwarfs. We will include these dwarfs in the spectroscopic study since those pairs will provide a subset of metal-rich stars that will be useful to connect our calibration at

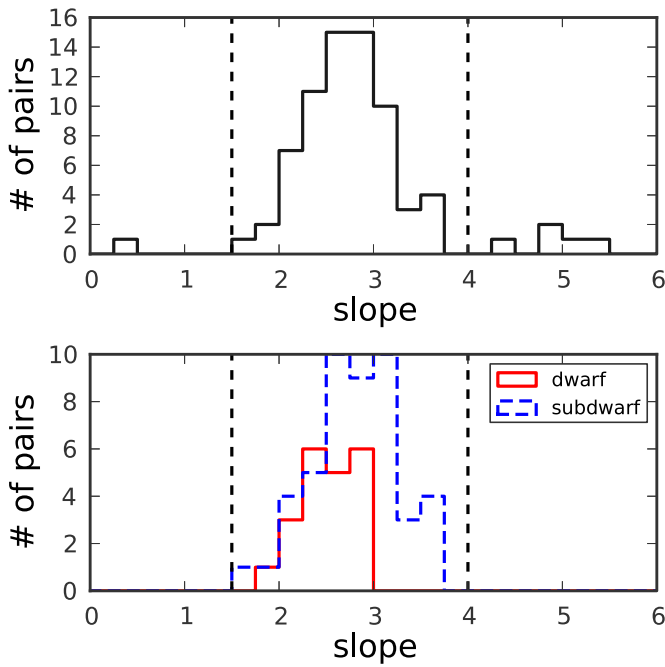


Figure 7. Top panel: a histogram of the slopes of the connected lines in Figure 6. Six pairs with slopes $m < 1.5$ or $m > 4$ are unlikely to be pairs composed of two stars that have similar metallicities. Bottom panel: histograms of the slopes m for two groups. The red curve represents the dwarf pair candidates (filled symbols in Figure 6) and the blue one indicates the subdwarf pairs candidates (open symbols in Figure 6). The dwarf candidates in general have a smaller slope than the subdwarf candidates.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

the low-metallicity end to the high-metallicity calibrations that have already been determined for M dwarfs (e.g., Newton et al. 2014).

Based on the MS and SD discriminator line $\eta = 0$, we separate the sample into two groups, dwarf candidates and subdwarf candidates, using the improved RPM diagram; the candidate dwarf pairs with primaries lying above the discriminator line $\eta = 0$ are plotted as filled circles (primaries) and triangles (secondaries) in Figure 6, while the candidate subdwarf pairs with primaries lying below the discriminator line $\eta = 0$, are plotted as open circles (primaries) and triangles (secondaries). We also plot histograms of the slopes m for the two groups in Figure 7. The dwarf pairs in general have a smaller slope than the subdwarf pairs. This agrees with the fact that the color–magnitude relationship is expected to be shallower at high metallicity.

4.3. Color–Color Diagram and Color Dependence on Metallicity

We have constructed a color–color diagram in the $V - R$ versus $V - I$ plane for the 68 potential “true” pairs in Figure 8. Symbols are the same as in Figure 6. In Figure 8, the subdwarf candidates mainly lie above the dwarf candidates on this diagram; i.e., the subdwarfs generally have a redder $V - R$ color at a given $V - I$ color. This appears to be analogous to the apparent correlation between metallicity and $g - r$ color found for M dwarfs and M subdwarfs by Lépine & Scholz (2008) and Bochanski et al. (2013). The color dependence of M dwarfs and subdwarfs on metallicity is also predicted by modern atmospheric models (Lépine et al. 2013). Overplotted on Figure 8 are synthetic colors generated from the PHOENIX/

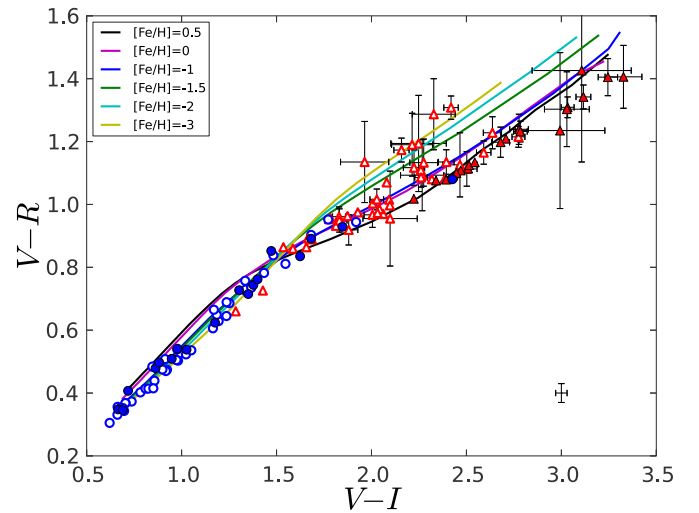


Figure 8. VRI color–color diagram for the 68 pairs. Symbols are the same as in Figure 6. Typical errors of 0.03 mag are shown in the lower right corner. Colors with errors larger than 0.03 mag are shown with associated error bars. Open triangles generally lie above the filled triangles for the secondaries, which shows that the M subdwarf candidates have a redder $V - R$ color for a given $V - I$ color. Overplotted are synthetic colors generated from the PHOENIX/BT-Settl model (Allard et al. 2011) for $\log g = 5$, $T_{\text{eff}} = 2800\text{K} - 6000\text{K}$ and various metallicities from $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] = 0.5$ to $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] = -3$, as indicated by the legend. The models corroborate the observations and predict that the M subdwarf candidates are likely to indeed be more metal-poor than the M dwarf candidates.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

BT-Settl⁹ model (Allard et al. 2011) for $\log g = 5$, $T_{\text{eff}} = 2800\text{ K} - 6000\text{ K}$ and various metallicities from $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] = 0.5$ to $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] = -3$. These models corroborate the observations and predict that the M subdwarfs generally have redder $V - R$ colors than the M dwarfs.

In future work, we will obtain more precise metallicities of the primaries in the sample using high-resolution spectra (Marshall et al. 2014, in preparation). The metallicities, together with the precisely measured photometry presented in this work, will place tighter constraints on the models. Moreover, the accurate metallicities derived from the primaries could also help develop a better relationship between the metallicities and the colors of the M dwarfs and subdwarfs, which could be used to identify more metal-poor, low-mass stars in the vicinity of the Sun.

5. SUMMARY AND FUTURE WORK

We present the improved *BVRI* photometry for a sample of high common proper motion F/G/K+M subdwarf pairs selected from an RPM diagram. These measurements are generally precise to 0.03 mag, representing a significant improvement on photometry currently existing for these stars. We have presented a revised RPM diagram for these candidate pairs using our improved photometry. A $V - R$ versus $V - I$ plot is also constructed using the improved photometry. There is a photometric dependence on the metallicity for the M dwarf and subdwarf candidates, where the subdwarf candidates have generally redder $V - R$ colors at a given $V - I$ color, as predicted by modern atmospheric models.

In a future paper, we will present metallicities for the primaries of our sample derived from high-resolution spectra along with line indices for the secondaries measured in moderate-resolution spectra. Together with the improved photometry

⁹ <http://perso.ens-lyon.fr/france.allard/>

presented here, we will develop an empirical calibration of M subdwarf metallicities. Moreover, the accurate metallicity derived from primaries could also help develop a better relationship between the metallicities and the colors of the M dwarfs and subdwarfs. A photometric metallicity method like this could be used to identify more low-mass subdwarfs in the vicinity of the Sun in future photometric surveys with high photometric precision, such as the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (Ivezic et al. 2008; Ivezić et al. 2012).

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