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The mass function into the brown dwarf regime

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In a recent survey for faint red stars from a digital stack of Schmidt plates a number of candidate objects were identified. Parallaxes for six of these stars have now been obtained, four of which are nearby and from their very low luminosities seem to be true brown dwarfs. We present various spectral analyses of these and other brown dwarf candidates selected from the digital stack and show how they may be used to derive the first field star mass function into the brown dwarf regime.