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**Searching for Unresolved Binary Brown Dwarfs** JACOB ALBRETSSEN, DENISE STEPHENS, Brigham Young University — There are currently L and T brown dwarfs (BDs) with errors in their classification of +/- 1 to 2 spectra types. Metallicity and gravitational differences have accounted for some of these discrepancies, and recent studies have shown unresolved binary BDs may offer some explanation as well. However limitations in technology and resources often make it difficult to clearly resolve an object that may be binary in nature. Stephens and Noll (2006) identified statistically strong binary source candidates from Hubble Space Telescope (HST) images of Trans-Neptunian Objects (TNOs) that were apparently unresolved using model point-spread functions for single and binary sources. The HST archive contains numerous observations of BDs using the Near Infrared Camera and Multi-Object Spectrometer (NICMOS) that have never been rigorously analyzed for binary properties. Using methods developed by Stephens and Noll (2006), BD observations from the HST data archive are being analyzed for possible unresolved binaries. Preliminary results will be presented. This technique will identify potential candidates for future observations to determine orbital information.

Prefer Oral Session  
 Prefer Poster Session

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