

Abstract Submitted
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**Generating Entangled Spin States for Quantum Metrology
by Single-Photon Detection** ROBERT MCCONNELL, HAO ZHANG, Mas-
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We present a proposal and latest experimental results on a probabilistic but heralded
scheme to generate non-Gaussian entangled states of collective spin in large atomic
ensembles by means of single-photon detection. One photon announces the prepa-
ration of a Dicke state, while two or more photons announce Schrödinger cat states.
The entangled states thus produced allow interferometry below the Standard Quan-
tum Limit (SQL). The method produces nearly pure states even for finite photon
detection efficiency and weak atom-photon coupling. The entanglement generation
can be made quasi-deterministic by means of repeated trial and feedback.

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