













than bi-particle entanglement and we can improve the performance of quantum information processing using single-photon N-mode entangled source like an entangled multi-particle system does. On the other hand, though our single-photon N-mode W-type entangled state is more robust to loss than other type entangled state, this type of entanglement is also sensitive to decoherence inevitably during the practical transmission of long-distance quantum communication and quantum networks. We can “repair” entanglement by using entanglement purification technique [4,25–29].

### **Acknowledgments**

This work was supported by the State Key Program for Basic Research of China (No. 2012CB921802 and No. 2011CBA00205), the National Natural Science Foundations of China (No. 91121001, and No. 11021403), the Project Funded by the Priority Academic Program Development of Jiangsu Higher Education Institutions (PAPD), and the Program for New Century Excellent Talents in University (NCET).