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Interactive comment on "Daytime HONO Vertical Gradients during SHARP 2009 in Houston, TX" by K. W. Wong et al.

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The authors discuss in the introduction the possibility of HONO formation from excited NO2 with H2O, as reported by Li et al (2008).

Even though the authors exclude themselves this reaction as a major source of the observed HONO, we would point out our recent work showing clearly, that the observed OH radicals in the work of Li et al originate from a process involving at least 2 photons:

Direct observation of OH radicals after 565 nm multi-photon excitation of NO2 in the presence of H2O Chemical Physics Letters, Volume 513, Issues 1-3, 6 September 2011, Pages 12-16 Damien Amedro, Alexander E. Parker, Coralie Schoemaecker, Christa Fittschen

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Therefore this reaction is of no importance for the atmosphere.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 11, 24365, 2011.