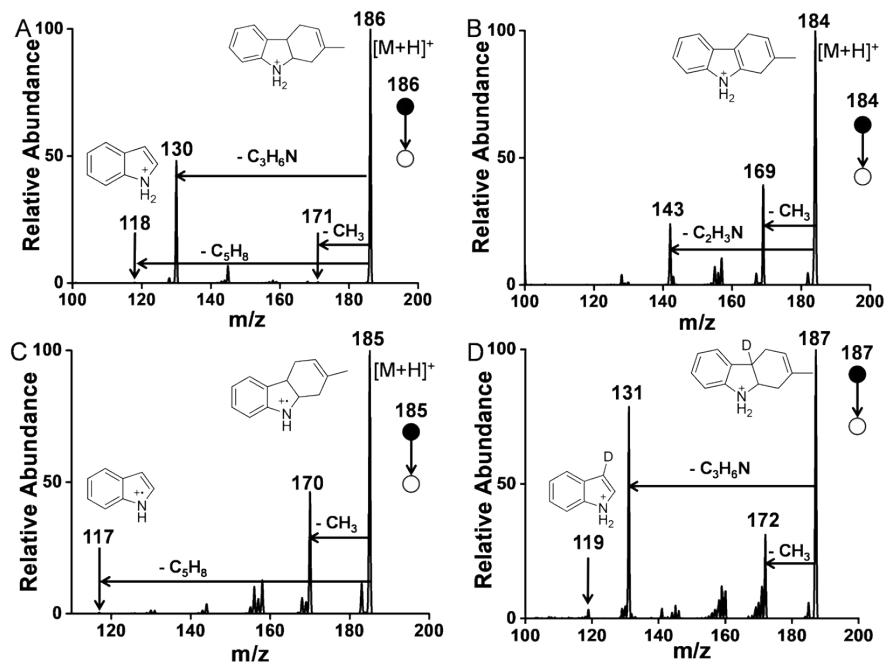


## Supporting Information

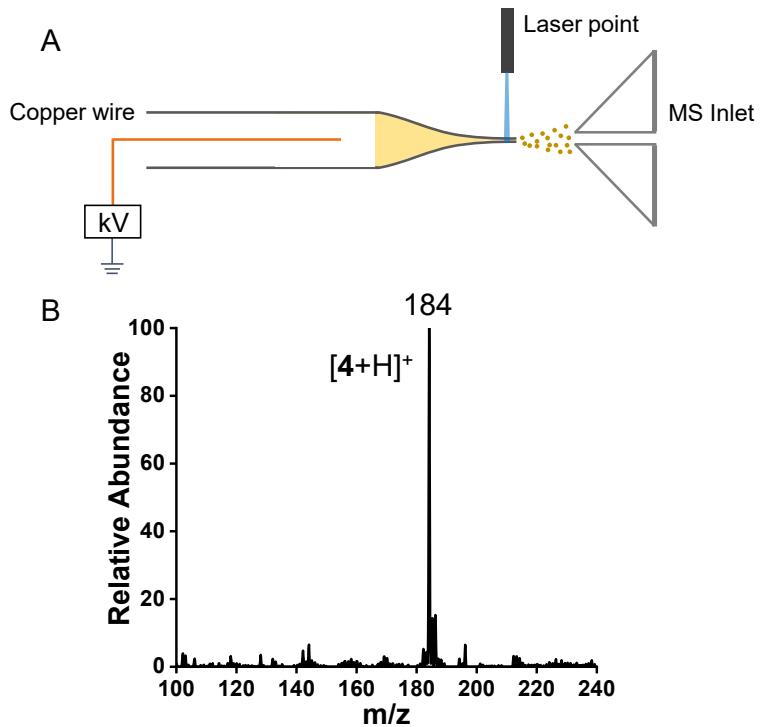
### Confined Surface-Enhanced Indole Cation-Radical Cyclization by Mass Spectrometry

Jianghui Sun, Hongwei Tan, Yixuan Gao, Jingjing Li, Juanjuan Wei, Shengxi Zhang, Jin Ouyang, Na Na\*

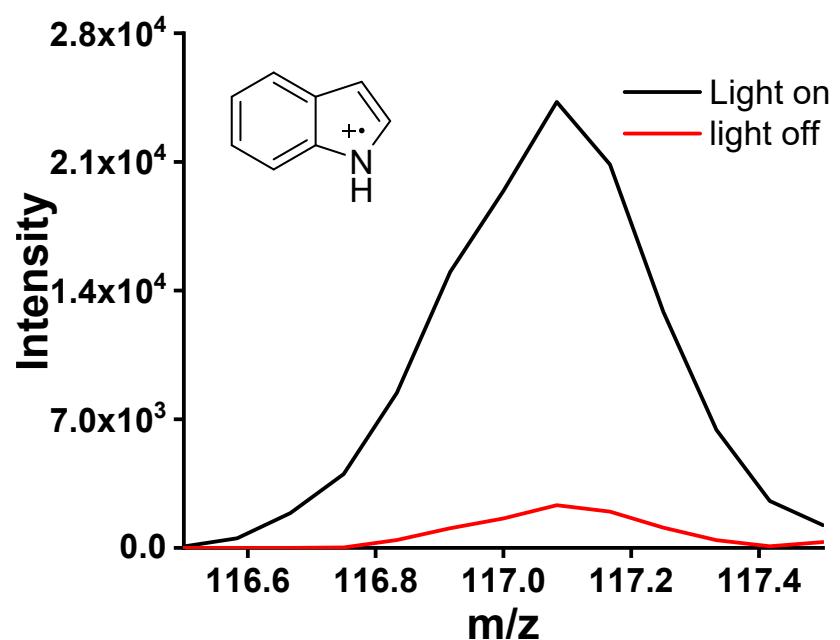
Key Laboratory of Radiopharmaceuticals, Ministry of Education, College of Chemistry, Beijing Normal University, Beijing 100875, China.



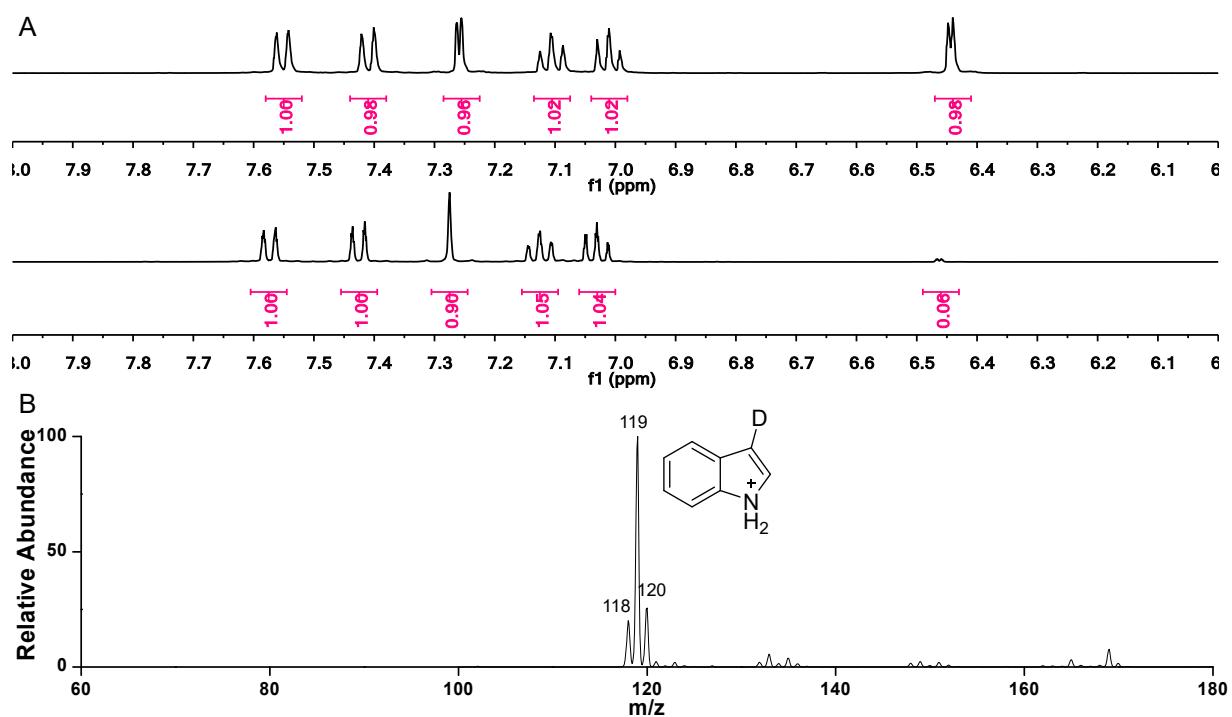
**Figure S1.** CID experiments to examine intermediates and product. (A)  $\text{MS}^2$  CID of intermediate ion  $[3+\text{H}]^+$  at  $m/z$  186. (B)  $\text{MS}^2$  CID of product ion  $[4+\text{H}]^+$  at  $m/z$  184. (C)  $\text{MS}^2$  CID of intermediate ion  $3^{\cdot+}$  ions at  $m/z$  185. (D)  $\text{MS}^2$  CID of  $[3-d_1+\text{H}]^+$  at  $m/z$  187.



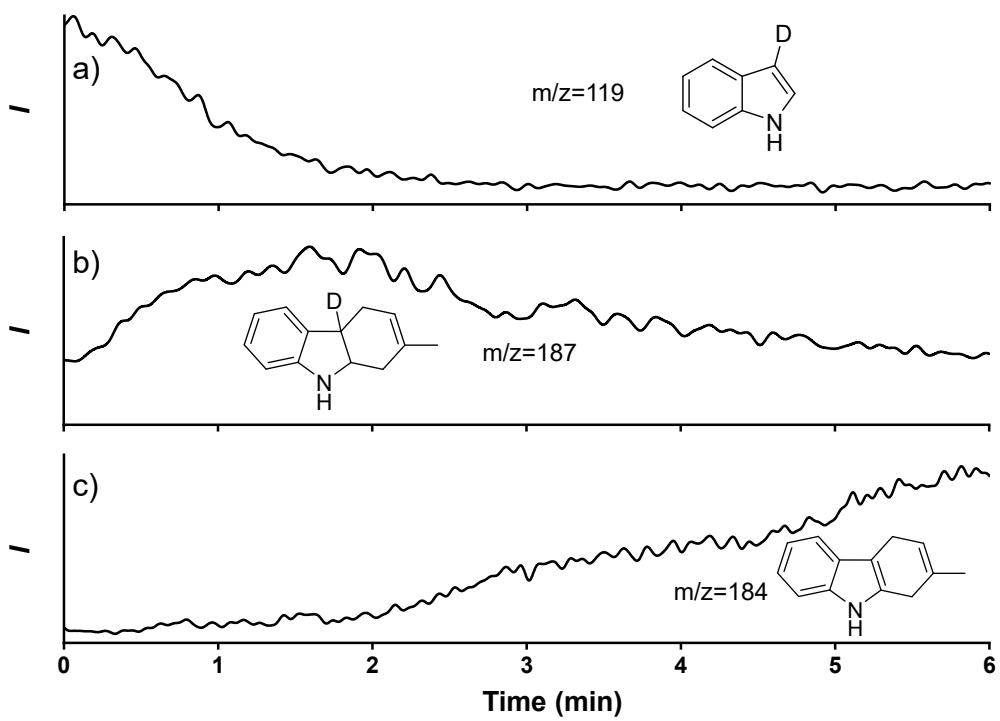
**Figure S2.** (A) Schematic diagram of inductive nESI. (B) Mass spectrometric analysis of Ru-catalyzed indole cation-radical cyclization in confined nanopipette using inductive nESI after reacting for 20 s.



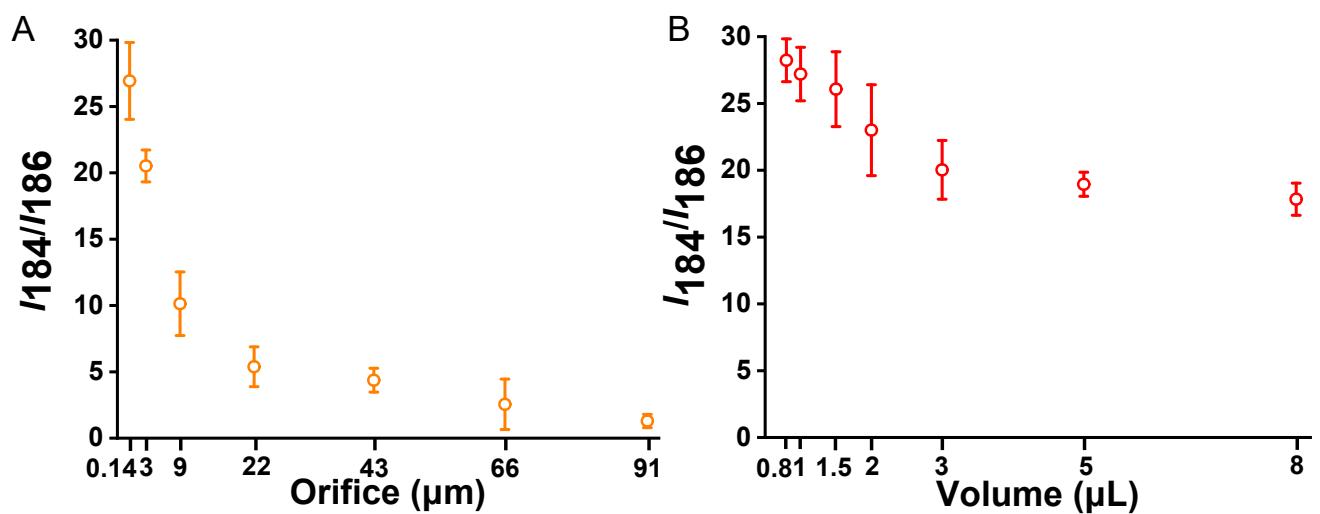
**Figure S3.** The formation of the cationic radical  $\mathbf{1}^{\bullet+}$ .



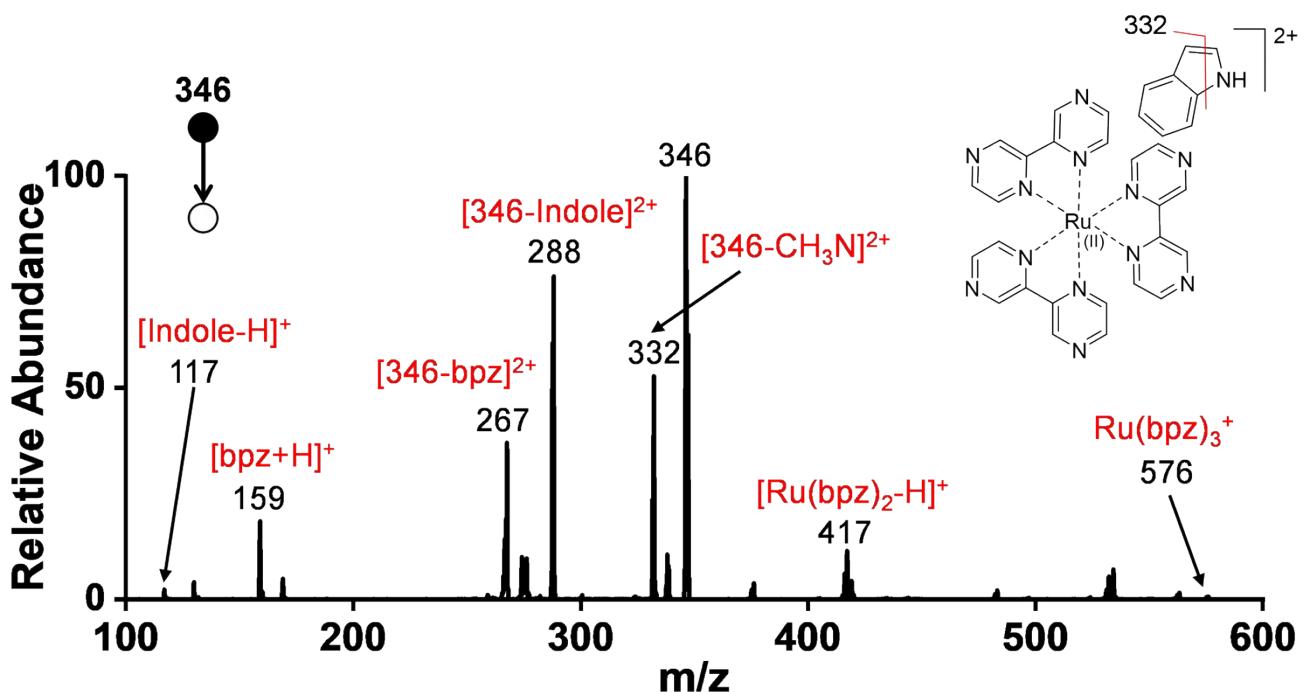
**Figure S4.** (A) <sup>1</sup>H NMR chart of indole (a) and indole-*d*<sub>1</sub> (b). (50% D<sub>2</sub>O/CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz). (B) The mass spectra of indole-*d*<sub>1</sub>.



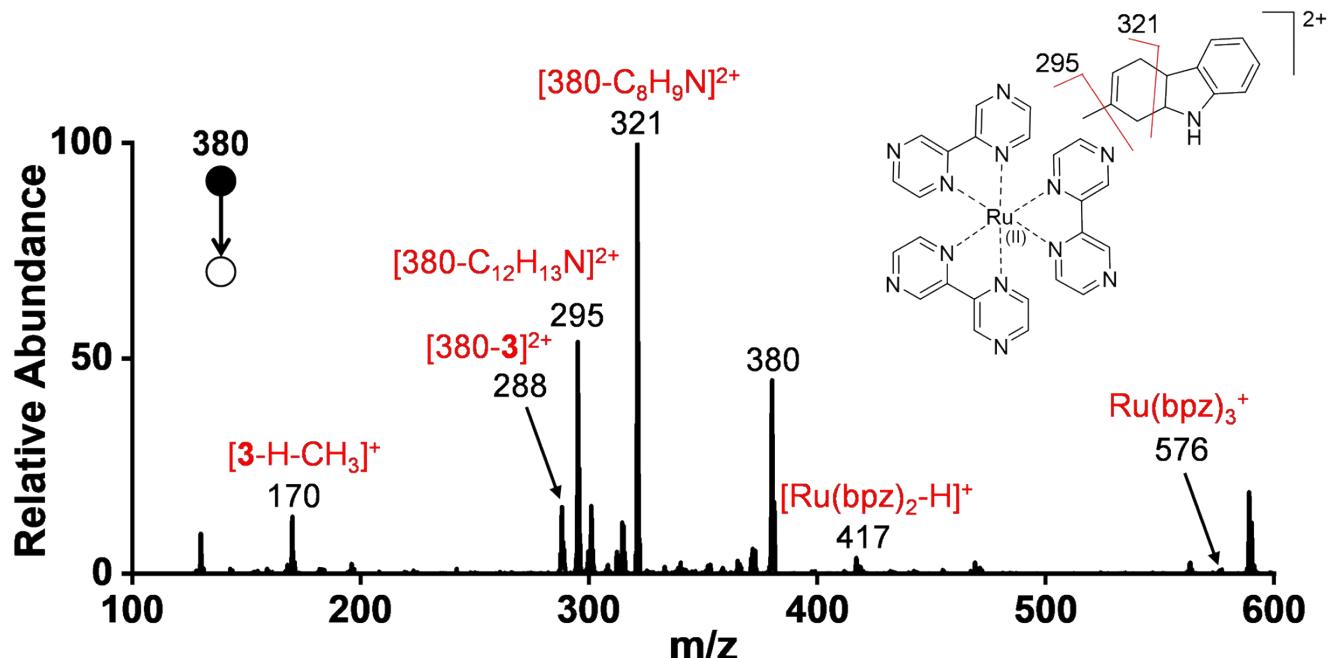
**Figure S5.** EICs of  $[1-d_1+\text{H}]^+$  at  $m/z$  118 (a),  $[3-d_1+\text{H}]^+$  at  $m/z$  187 (b), and  $[4+\text{H}]^+$  at  $m/z$  184 (c). *I*=Intensity



**Figure S6.** Optimization of the orifice size of the confined nanopipette (A) and the volume of the reaction system (B).



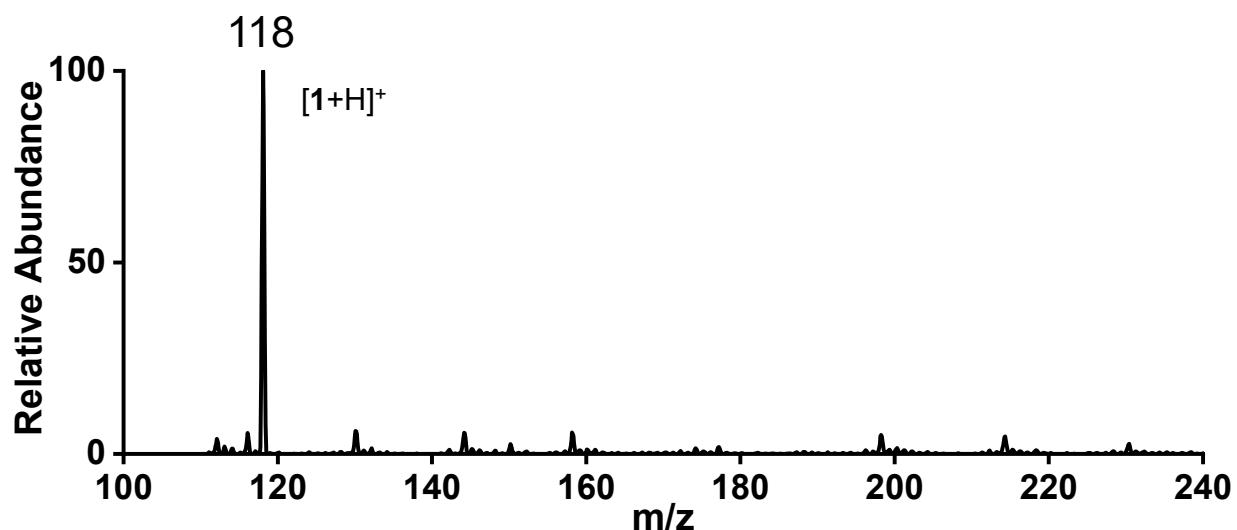
**Figure S7.** CID experiment to examine complex  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpz})_3 + \mathbf{1}]^{2+}$  at  $m/z$  346.



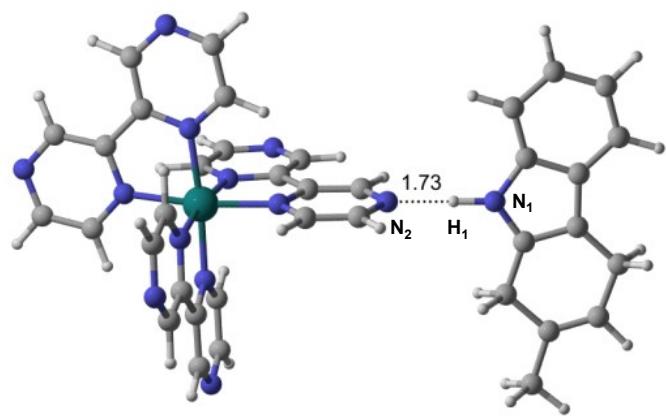
**Figure S8.** CID experiment to examine complex  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpz})_3\text{+3}]^{2+}$  at  $m/z$  380.

**Table S1.** The possible transformations of the electronic states of ruthenium, indole and intermediate **3**

	[Ru(bpz) <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>2+</sup>	[Ru(bpz) <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	Reactant <b>1</b>	Cationic radical <b>1•<sup>+</sup></b>	Intermediate <b>3</b>	Cationic radical <b>3•<sup>+</sup></b>
Energy (Ha)	-1675.75613	-1676.13348	-363.82202	-363.54316	-557.59426	-557.33829



**Figure S9.** Mass spectrometric analysis of Ru-catalyzed indole cation-radical cyclization in silanized nanopipette after 20 s.



**Figure S10.** Calculated structure of complex  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpz})_3 + 3]^{2+}$ .