## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

## Gas-phase synthesis of [O=U-X]<sup>+</sup> (X= Cl, Br and I) from a UO<sub>2</sub><sup>2+</sup> precursor using ionmolecule reactions and an [O=U≡CH]<sup>+</sup> intermediate

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Figure S1. Product ion spectra generated by isolation (MS<sup>6</sup> stage) of  $[OUI]^+$  (*m*/*z* 381) for reaction with H<sub>2</sub>O: (a) 10 ms reaction time, (b) 100 ms reaction time and (c) 10 s reaction time. In the figure, precursor ion is indicated with bold font and reaction products identified with italicized font.

Figure S2. Comparison of product ion spectra generated by isolation (MS<sup>6</sup> stage) of  $[OUI]^+$  (*m*/*z* 381) for reaction with (a) H<sub>2</sub>O and (b) CH<sub>3</sub>OH. A 100 ms reaction time was used to generate each spectrum. In the figure, precursor ion is indicated with bold font and reaction products identified with italicized font.

Figure S3. Reaction energy diagram for the reaction of  $[OUCH]^+$  with  $CH_3I$  via pathway 1, as outlined in the text. Data in blue represents structures (minima and transition states) in the singlet spin state. Species in the triplet spin state are indicated in red. Data generated by the B3LYP/SDD/6-311+G(d,p) level of theory.

Figure S4. Reaction energy diagram for the reaction of [OUCH]<sup>+</sup> with CH<sub>3</sub>I via pathway 2, as outlined in the text. Data in blue represents structures (minima and transition states) in the singlet spin state. Species in the triplet spin state are indicated in red. Data generated by the PBE0/SDD/6-311+G(d,p) level of theory.

Figure S5. Reaction energy diagram for the reaction of  $[OUCH]^+$  with  $CH_3I$  via pathway 2, as outlined in the text. Data in blue represents structures (minima and transition states) in the singlet spin state. Species in the triplet spin state are indicated in red. Data generated by the B3LYP/SDD/6-311+G(d,p) level of theory.

Figure S6. Product ion spectra generated by isolation ( $MS^5$  stage) of [OUCH]<sup>+</sup> (m/z 267) for reaction with dichloromethane ( $CH_2Cl_2$ ): (a) 1 ms reaction time, (b) 10 ms reaction time and (c) 100 ms reaction time. In the figure, precursor ion is indicated with bold font and reaction products identified with italicized font.

Figure S7. Product ion spectra generated by isolation (MS<sup>5</sup> stage) of  $[OUCH]^+$  (*m*/*z* 267) for reaction with allyl bromide (CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>Br): (a) 1 ms reaction time, (b) 10 ms reaction time and (c) 100 ms reaction time. In the figure, precursor ion is indicated with bold font and reaction products identified with italicized font.

Figure S8. Product ion spectra generated by isolation (MS<sup>5</sup> stage) of  $[OUCH]^+$  (*m*/*z* 267) for reaction with allyl bromide (CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>I): (a) 1 ms reaction time, (b) 10 ms reaction time and (c) 100 ms reaction time. In the figure, precursor ion is indicated with bold font and reaction products identified with italicized font.

Coordinated for relevant minima and transition state structures are available from the corresponding author upon request. <u>vanstipdonkm@duq.edu</u>



Figure S1.



Figure S2



Figure S3.



Reaction progress

Figure S4.



Reaction progress

Figure S5.



Figure S6.



Figure S7.



Figure S8.