

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

**Design and application of a water-soluble phosphorescent Ru(II)  
complex as turn-on sensing material for Hg<sup>2+</sup>**

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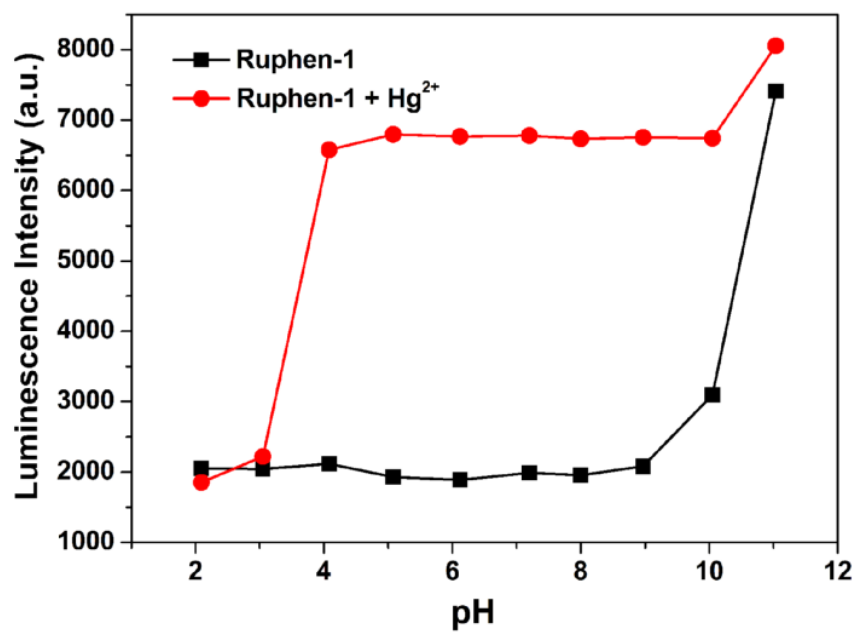
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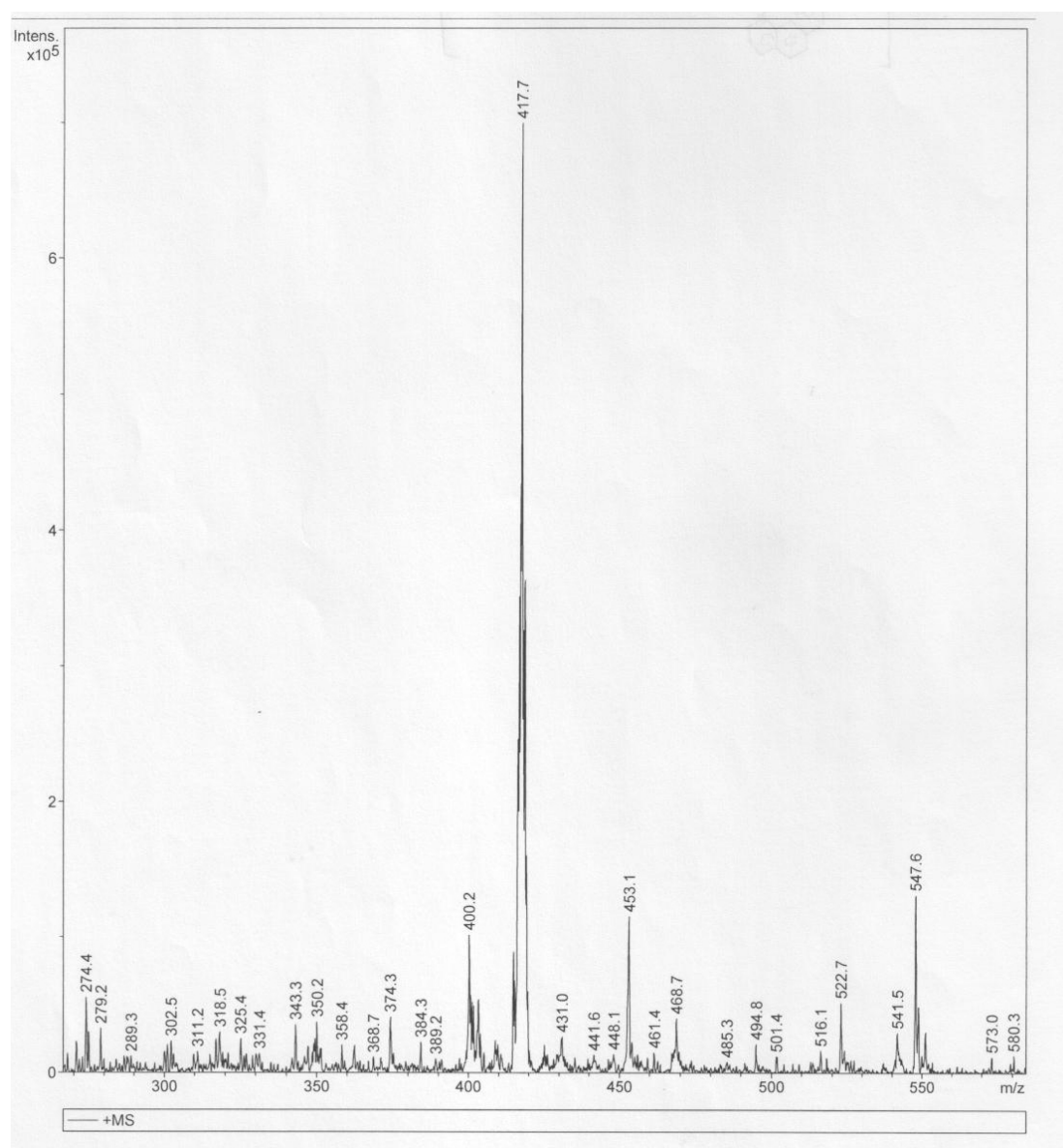
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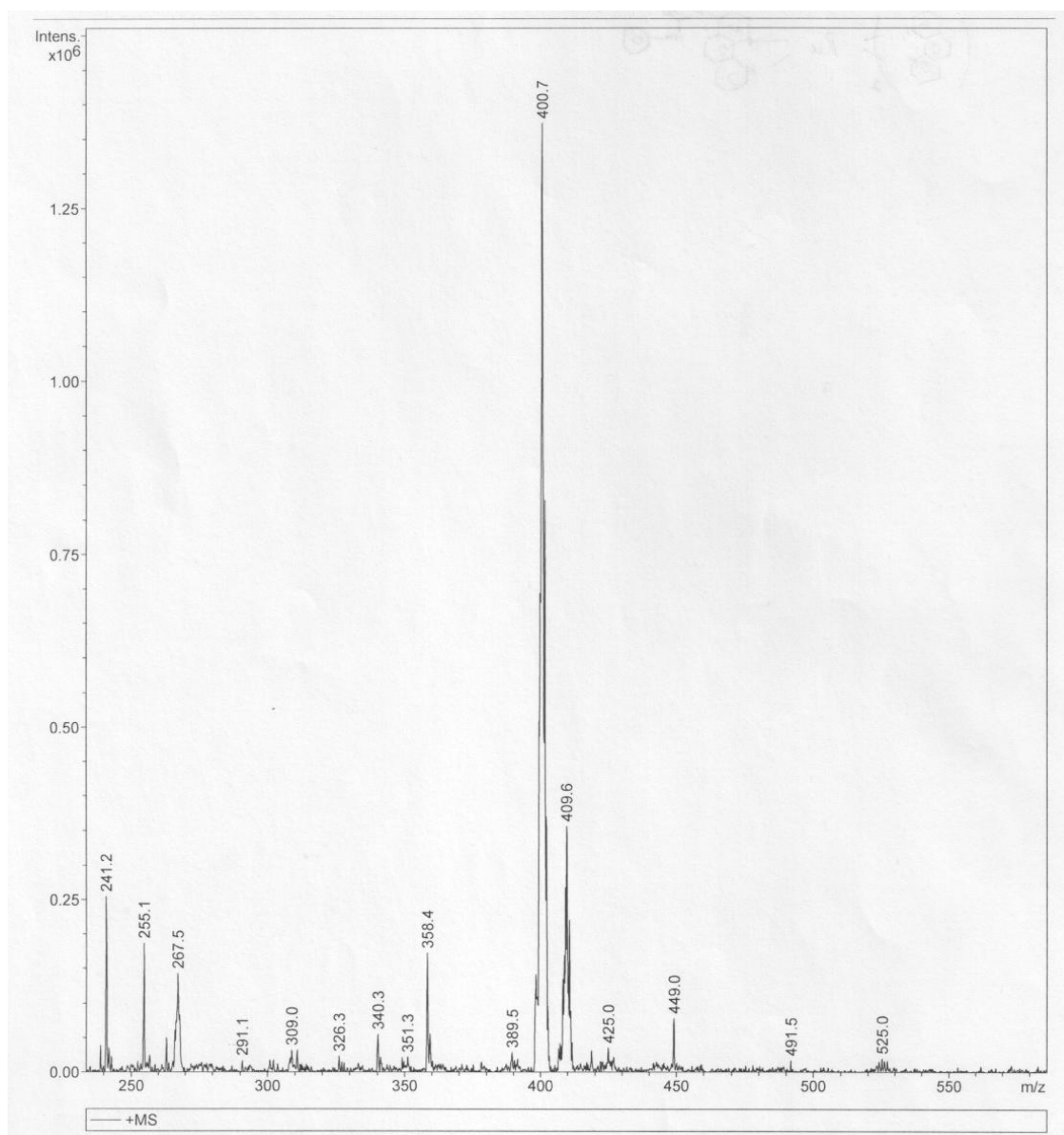
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**Fig. S1** Luminescence intensity of **Ruphen-1** (10  $\mu$ M) at 598 nm in the absence and presence of 10 equiv of Hg<sup>2+</sup> as a function of pH in water solutions.  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 467$  nm.

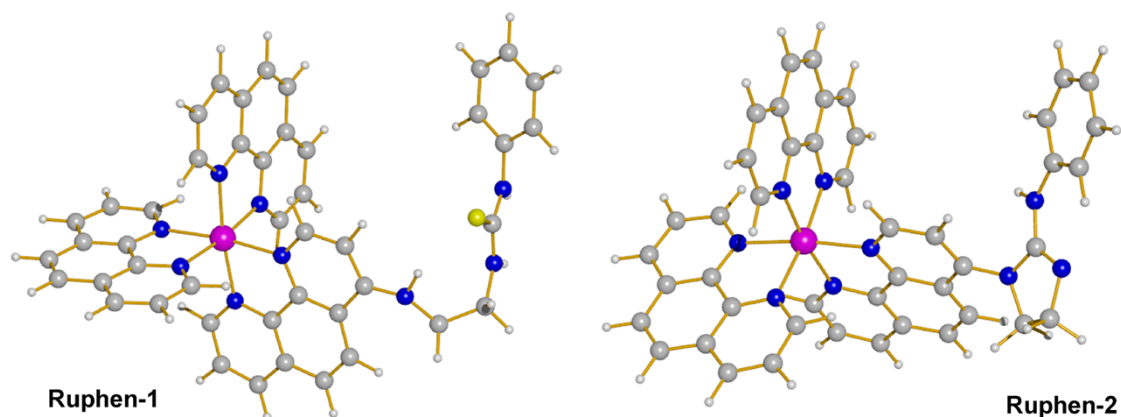


**Fig. S2** ESI mass spectrum of **Ruphen-1** ( $m/z$  417.7).



**Fig. S3** ESI mass spectrum of **Ruphen-2** ( $m/z$  400.7).

## Theoretical calculations



**Fig. S4** The calculated ground-state geometries of **Ruphen-1** and **Ruphen-2**.

**Table S1** DFT optimized coordinates for **Ruphen-1** in the ground state.

| Number | Atom | Coordinates |          |          |
|--------|------|-------------|----------|----------|
|        |      | X           | Y        | Z        |
| 1      | Ru   | 2.009712    | 0.102352 | 0.127188 |
| 2      | C    | 1.132852    | -3.8325  | 1.675416 |
| 3      | C    | 2.258305    | -4.21921 | 2.440481 |
| 4      | C    | 3.323377    | -3.34762 | 2.56225  |
| 5      | C    | 3.270781    | -2.09843 | 1.918019 |
| 6      | N    | 2.224196    | -1.70722 | 1.187573 |
| 7      | C    | 1.15516     | -2.55624 | 1.065397 |
| 8      | C    | 0.042621    | -2.09981 | 0.276964 |
| 9      | N    | 0.192998    | -0.88359 | -0.32489 |
| 10     | C    | -0.80867    | -0.45823 | -1.11019 |
| 11     | C    | -1.98833    | -1.16186 | -1.28715 |
| 12     | C    | -2.21233    | -2.38876 | -0.62634 |
| 13     | C    | -1.11276    | -2.9154  | 0.144619 |
| 14     | C    | -1.08204    | -4.22297 | 0.741001 |
| 15     | C    | -0.01309    | -4.66433 | 1.47063  |
| 16     | C    | 3.511776    | -2.02854 | -3.45731 |
| 17     | C    | 4.853397    | -1.69195 | -3.45468 |
| 18     | C    | 5.352548    | -0.85204 | -2.43313 |
| 19     | C    | 4.436163    | -0.39808 | -1.4544  |
| 20     | C    | 4.883063    | 0.454902 | -0.39339 |
| 21     | C    | 6.241509    | 0.847042 | -0.3252  |
| 22     | C    | 6.624832    | 1.689021 | 0.743549 |
| 23     | C    | 5.672904    | 2.087586 | 1.664409 |
| 24     | C    | 4.344248    | 1.648786 | 1.523484 |

|    |   |          |          |          |
|----|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 25 | N | 3.950269 | 0.852773 | 0.526188 |
| 26 | C | 0.756912 | 0.739497 | 2.914669 |
| 27 | C | 0.069234 | 1.535569 | 3.847871 |
| 28 | C | -0.36091 | 2.798515 | 3.482777 |
| 29 | C | -0.10239 | 3.263561 | 2.173304 |
| 30 | C | 0.591794 | 2.395771 | 1.296442 |
| 31 | C | 0.879481 | 2.811127 | -0.04412 |
| 32 | C | 0.474359 | 4.091593 | -0.49161 |
| 33 | C | 0.783416 | 4.444876 | -1.82494 |
| 34 | C | 1.455176 | 3.538687 | -2.62528 |
| 35 | C | 1.818489 | 2.285514 | -2.10114 |
| 36 | N | 1.542555 | 1.922208 | -0.84609 |
| 37 | N | -3.42169 | -2.99494 | -0.78638 |
| 38 | C | -4.10783 | -3.90145 | 0.138999 |
| 39 | C | -5.62522 | -3.67901 | 0.094531 |
| 40 | N | -6.04587 | -2.36948 | 0.583001 |
| 41 | C | -6.35591 | -1.28528 | -0.16886 |
| 42 | S | -6.23376 | -1.27787 | -1.87205 |
| 43 | N | -6.75235 | -0.19901 | 0.551907 |
| 44 | C | -7.14326 | 1.082524 | 0.054796 |
| 45 | C | -6.43998 | 2.212974 | 0.488255 |
| 46 | C | -6.84208 | 3.486203 | 0.071897 |
| 47 | C | -7.93787 | 3.631548 | -0.78448 |
| 48 | C | -8.63995 | 2.498017 | -1.21184 |
| 49 | C | -8.25326 | 1.224651 | -0.78709 |
| 50 | H | 2.273941 | -5.19273 | 2.922042 |
| 51 | H | 4.203021 | -3.60634 | 3.141885 |
| 52 | H | 4.094276 | -1.39824 | 1.996735 |
| 53 | H | -0.66521 | 0.497299 | -1.60214 |
| 54 | H | -2.76687 | -0.73518 | -1.91154 |
| 55 | H | -1.9117  | -4.89865 | 0.589277 |
| 56 | H | -0.01928 | -5.66198 | 1.899623 |
| 57 | H | 3.093248 | -2.67053 | -4.22493 |
| 58 | H | 5.523865 | -2.06294 | -4.22454 |
| 59 | H | 7.657705 | 2.01308  | 0.831829 |
| 60 | H | 5.929629 | 2.733127 | 2.497431 |
| 61 | H | 3.583237 | 1.945822 | 2.236097 |
| 62 | H | 1.107756 | -0.25083 | 3.181291 |
| 63 | H | -0.11121 | 1.144351 | 4.84335  |
| 64 | H | -0.89101 | 3.433448 | 4.186747 |
| 65 | H | 0.490922 | 5.4182   | -2.20815 |
| 66 | H | 1.707908 | 3.773686 | -3.65362 |
| 67 | H | 2.339881 | 1.558368 | -2.71275 |
| 68 | H | -4.06158 | -2.48413 | -1.39451 |

|    |   |          |          |          |
|----|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 69 | H | -3.74543 | -3.73559 | 1.158935 |
| 70 | H | -3.92495 | -4.95161 | -0.12279 |
| 71 | H | -6.09599 | -4.43657 | 0.728196 |
| 72 | H | -6.00494 | -3.80759 | -0.92133 |
| 73 | H | -6.1549  | -2.29477 | 1.58929  |
| 74 | H | -6.6482  | -0.25052 | 1.560876 |
| 75 | H | -5.58232 | 2.093594 | 1.144993 |
| 76 | H | -6.29339 | 4.359973 | 0.412729 |
| 77 | H | -8.24723 | 4.620272 | -1.11222 |
| 78 | H | -9.49987 | 2.604464 | -1.86766 |
| 79 | H | -8.80703 | 0.34652  | -1.10118 |
| 80 | C | 2.668739 | -1.53015 | -2.44807 |
| 81 | H | 1.613336 | -1.77594 | -2.43139 |
| 82 | N | 3.10988  | -0.7346  | -1.47058 |
| 83 | N | 1.017731 | 1.15019  | 1.670962 |
| 84 | C | 6.726471 | -0.44029 | -2.34156 |
| 85 | H | 7.42299  | -0.79184 | -3.09723 |
| 86 | C | 7.152159 | 0.375323 | -1.33214 |
| 87 | H | 8.192431 | 0.682271 | -1.27256 |
| 88 | C | -0.50353 | 4.558308 | 1.695496 |
| 89 | H | -1.03501 | 5.218319 | 2.375141 |
| 90 | C | -0.22501 | 4.956159 | 0.419014 |
| 91 | H | -0.5315  | 5.93752  | 0.068559 |

**Table S2** DFT optimized coordinates for **Ruphen-2** in the ground state.

| Number | Atom | Coordinates |          |          |
|--------|------|-------------|----------|----------|
|        |      | X           | Y        | Z        |
| 1      | Ru   | 1.639009    | 0.093979 | 0.149847 |
| 2      | C    | 0.204848    | -3.27524 | 2.440697 |
| 3      | C    | 1.3058      | -3.75297 | 3.188775 |
| 4      | C    | 2.530244    | -3.12432 | 3.062702 |
| 5      | C    | 2.656224    | -2.02007 | 2.200519 |
| 6      | N    | 1.635594    | -1.54525 | 1.483009 |
| 7      | C    | 0.419461    | -2.16653 | 1.588899 |
| 8      | C    | -0.65706    | -1.63854 | 0.800241 |
| 9      | N    | -0.37045    | -0.54806 | 0.026039 |
| 10     | C    | -1.36342    | -0.02253 | -0.6966  |
| 11     | C    | -2.65572    | -0.55154 | -0.72073 |
| 12     | C    | -2.97179    | -1.68188 | 0.03757  |
| 13     | C    | -1.93811    | -2.23924 | 0.85851  |
| 14     | C    | -2.13569    | -3.34016 | 1.759073 |
| 15     | C    | -1.11108    | -3.83931 | 2.513047 |
| 16     | C    | 2.293224    | -2.81154 | -3.13837 |
| 17     | C    | 3.666731    | -2.76681 | -3.2946  |

|    |   |          |          |          |
|----|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 18 | C | 4.427846 | -1.90614 | -2.47123 |
| 19 | C | 3.72928  | -1.12851 | -1.51677 |
| 20 | C | 4.446917 | -0.23574 | -0.65611 |
| 21 | C | 5.85427  | -0.12742 | -0.76234 |
| 22 | C | 6.507536 | 0.771359 | 0.111436 |
| 23 | C | 5.757693 | 1.494713 | 1.021081 |
| 24 | C | 4.362691 | 1.322651 | 1.062966 |
| 25 | N | 3.716274 | 0.481976 | 0.251496 |
| 26 | C | 0.906354 | 1.393551 | 2.89389  |
| 27 | C | 0.515555 | 2.449308 | 3.736654 |
| 28 | C | 0.285086 | 3.7027   | 3.199093 |
| 29 | C | 0.448307 | 3.898094 | 1.808555 |
| 30 | C | 0.842717 | 2.781288 | 1.033615 |
| 31 | C | 1.028242 | 2.918867 | -0.3803  |
| 32 | C | 0.81715  | 4.171765 | -1.00404 |
| 33 | C | 1.01646  | 4.246723 | -2.40153 |
| 34 | C | 1.402501 | 3.111401 | -3.0908  |
| 35 | C | 1.588361 | 1.904901 | -2.39268 |
| 36 | N | 1.406482 | 1.801495 | -1.0739  |
| 37 | N | -4.24211 | -2.26518 | 0.010588 |
| 38 | C | -4.4566  | -3.6851  | -0.38517 |
| 39 | C | -5.58589 | -3.54903 | -1.43137 |
| 40 | N | -6.23066 | -2.25488 | -1.15063 |
| 41 | C | -5.41776 | -1.58132 | -0.41231 |
| 42 | N | -5.59219 | -0.31308 | 0.074608 |
| 43 | C | -6.55057 | 0.65742  | -0.27441 |
| 44 | C | -6.48173 | 1.892732 | 0.398512 |
| 45 | C | -7.38857 | 2.908924 | 0.102268 |
| 46 | C | -8.37767 | 2.716327 | -0.87058 |
| 47 | C | -8.44271 | 1.49001  | -1.53763 |
| 48 | C | -7.54296 | 0.457902 | -1.24893 |
| 49 | H | 1.179203 | -4.60338 | 3.85242  |
| 50 | H | 3.398468 | -3.46132 | 3.618636 |
| 51 | H | 3.60412  | -1.50567 | 2.093263 |
| 52 | H | -1.11703 | 0.83722  | -1.30922 |
| 53 | H | -3.39112 | -0.08965 | -1.36822 |
| 54 | H | -3.12477 | -3.77037 | 1.854936 |
| 55 | H | -1.28501 | -4.66936 | 3.191453 |
| 56 | H | 1.676794 | -3.45886 | -3.75273 |
| 57 | H | 4.163728 | -3.38094 | -4.03995 |
| 58 | H | 7.586574 | 0.884755 | 0.0621   |
| 59 | H | 6.223864 | 2.193369 | 1.707391 |
| 60 | H | 3.75615  | 1.873178 | 1.772692 |
| 61 | H | 1.096083 | 0.404473 | 3.294383 |

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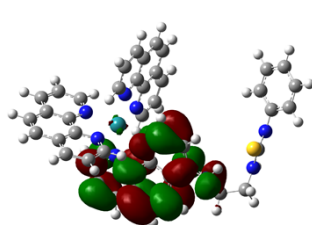
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|----|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 62 | H | 0.401555 | 2.261463 | 4.798813 |
| 63 | H | -0.01684 | 4.533856 | 3.829866 |
| 64 | H | 0.865523 | 5.189659 | -2.91915 |
| 65 | H | 1.56527  | 3.130613 | -4.16298 |
| 66 | H | 1.887322 | 1.002331 | -2.91283 |
| 67 | H | -4.78642 | -4.27171 | 0.478486 |
| 68 | H | -3.53633 | -4.11567 | -0.78318 |
| 69 | H | -6.31331 | -4.36098 | -1.34591 |
| 70 | H | -5.19477 | -3.55596 | -2.45802 |
| 71 | H | -4.95366 | -0.03949 | 0.810733 |
| 72 | H | -5.71396 | 2.053363 | 1.152524 |
| 73 | H | -7.31922 | 3.85445  | 0.633741 |
| 74 | H | -9.08463 | 3.508356 | -1.10108 |
| 75 | H | -9.20567 | 1.322881 | -2.29397 |
| 76 | H | -7.60654 | -0.49281 | -1.76108 |
| 77 | C | 1.678448 | -2.00262 | -2.16623 |
| 78 | H | 0.603446 | -2.01814 | -2.02975 |
| 79 | N | 2.369309 | -1.17982 | -1.37315 |
| 80 | N | 1.069182 | 1.54604  | 1.57735  |
| 81 | C | 5.857062 | -1.78154 | -2.55686 |
| 82 | H | 6.385544 | -2.38266 | -3.29105 |
| 83 | C | 6.540574 | -0.92725 | -1.73944 |
| 84 | H | 7.620553 | -0.83886 | -1.81429 |
| 85 | C | 0.238055 | 5.159002 | 1.151788 |
| 86 | H | -0.06513 | 6.010977 | 1.753364 |
| 87 | C | 0.416005 | 5.290483 | -0.19597 |
| 88 | H | 0.255835 | 6.248424 | -0.68207 |

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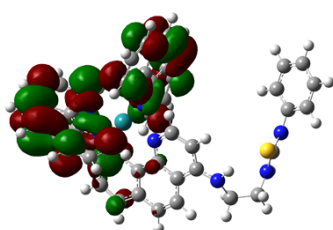
**Table S3** TD-DFT calculated singlet absorption data for **Ruphen-1** (Selected absorption wavelength > 350 nm)

| state<br>( <i>E</i> /nm, o.s.) | transition | coefficient | state<br>( <i>E</i> /nm, o.s.) | transition | coefficient |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| <b>S1</b><br>(483.87, 0.0018)  | 198 -> 200 | 0.19741     | <b>S10</b><br>(418.69, 0.0179) | 197 -> 201 | -0.22389    |
|                                | 198 -> 201 | -0.12186    |                                | 197 -> 202 | -0.22233    |
|                                | 199 -> 200 | 0.52409     |                                | 197 -> 203 | -0.27196    |
|                                | 199 -> 201 | -0.37169    |                                | 198 -> 202 | -0.27609    |
| <b>S2</b><br>(479.89, 0.0092)  | 198 -> 200 | 0.19487     |                                | 198 -> 203 | 0.37835     |
|                                | 198 -> 201 | 0.27538     |                                | 199 -> 202 | 0.11837     |
|                                | 199 -> 200 | 0.34544     |                                | 199 -> 203 | -0.22587    |
|                                | 199 -> 201 | 0.49704     |                                |            |             |
| <b>S3</b><br>(458.06, 0.0204)  | 198 -> 200 | 0.4308      | <b>S11</b><br>(411.55, 0.1019) | 197 -> 200 | -0.10011    |
|                                | 198 -> 202 | 0.15343     |                                | 197 -> 201 | 0.16744     |
|                                | 198 -> 203 | 0.21275     |                                | 197 -> 202 | 0.24891     |
|                                | 199 -> 200 | -0.24674    |                                | 197 -> 203 | 0.40764     |
|                                | 199 -> 202 | 0.27397     |                                | 198 -> 202 | -0.21467    |
|                                | 199 -> 203 | 0.29199     |                                | 198 -> 203 | 0.37619     |
| <b>S4</b><br>(455.87, 0.0050)  | 198 -> 200 | -0.293      | <b>S12</b><br>(405.61, 0.0314) | 197 -> 202 | -0.23603    |
|                                | 198 -> 201 | 0.48237     |                                | 198 -> 204 | 0.63402     |
|                                | 199 -> 201 | -0.16127    |                                | 199 -> 204 | -0.12045    |
|                                | 199 -> 202 | 0.25371     |                                |            |             |
|                                | 199 -> 203 | 0.21923     |                                |            |             |
| <b>S5</b><br>(451.98, 0.0042)  | 197 -> 200 | 0.1428      | <b>S13</b><br>(398.92, 0.0289) | 197 -> 202 | 0.52402     |
|                                | 197 -> 201 | 0.16031     |                                | 197 -> 203 | -0.39057    |
|                                | 198 -> 200 | 0.34832     |                                | 198 -> 204 | 0.20172     |
|                                | 198 -> 201 | 0.35208     | <b>S14</b><br>(389.29, 0.1075) | 197 -> 201 | -0.27461    |
|                                | 198 -> 202 | -0.13572    |                                | 197 -> 203 | 0.17869     |
|                                | 199 -> 200 | -0.11466    |                                | 197 -> 204 | 0.2379      |
|                                | 199 -> 201 | -0.1963     |                                | 198 -> 202 | 0.22994     |
|                                | 199 -> 202 | -0.3063     |                                | 198 -> 205 | 0.11964     |
|                                | 199 -> 203 | -0.14647    |                                | 199 -> 203 | -0.13341    |
|                                |            |             |                                | 199 -> 205 | 0.46345     |
| <b>S6</b><br>(439.20, 0.0022)  | 197 -> 200 | 0.27778     | <b>S15</b><br>(388.69, 0.0540) | 197 -> 201 | 0.11532     |
|                                | 197 -> 201 | 0.20809     |                                | 197 -> 204 | 0.64313     |
|                                | 198 -> 203 | -0.17043    |                                | 199 -> 205 | -0.15498    |
|                                | 199 -> 202 | 0.40945     | <b>S16</b><br>(376.09, 0.0309) | 194 -> 200 | 0.1249      |
|                                | 199 -> 203 | -0.40127    |                                | 197 -> 201 | 0.30348     |
| <b>S7</b><br>(433.52, 0.0581)  | 197 -> 200 | 0.49875     |                                | 197 -> 203 | -0.15656    |
|                                | 198 -> 201 | -0.11672    |                                | 198 -> 202 | -0.25906    |
|                                | 198 -> 204 | -0.16214    |                                | 198 -> 205 | 0.14153     |
|                                | 199 -> 202 | -0.17423    |                                | 199 -> 203 | 0.14555     |
|                                | 199 -> 203 | 0.13668     |                                | 199 -> 205 | 0.44729     |
|                                | 199 -> 204 | -0.36664    | <b>S17</b><br>(367.41, 0.0357) | 198 -> 205 | 0.66114     |
|                                |            |             |                                | 199 -> 205 | -0.1894     |
|                                |            |             | <b>S18</b>                     | 196 -> 200 | 0.65889     |

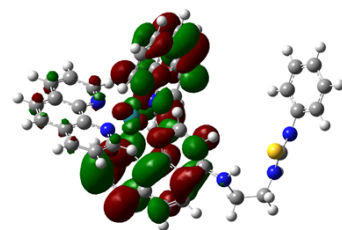
|                               |            |            |                                |                                |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| <b>S8</b><br>(427.83, 0.0593) | 197 -> 200 | -0.16524   | (362.93, 0.0003)               | 196 -> 201                     | 0.23786    |
|                               | 197 -> 201 | 0.34234    |                                | <b>S19</b><br>(356.96, 0.0034) | 197 -> 205 |
|                               | 197 -> 202 | -0.1409    | <b>S20</b><br>(352.15, 0.0001) |                                | 196 -> 200 |
|                               | 197 -> 203 | -0.12404   |                                | 196 -> 201                     | 0.63369    |
|                               | 198 -> 202 | 0.39703    |                                | 196 -> 202                     | 0.10796    |
|                               | 198 -> 203 | 0.19335    |                                | 196 -> 203                     | 0.15097    |
|                               | 199 -> 202 | -0.14223   | <b>S21</b><br>(350.22, 0.0002) | 196 -> 200                     | 0.13287    |
|                               | 199 -> 203 | -0.1768    |                                | 196 -> 201                     | -0.15388   |
| 199 -> 204                    | -0.21545   | 196 -> 202 |                                | 0.47125                        |            |
| <b>S9</b><br>(426.76, 0.0641) | 197 -> 200 | 0.28617    |                                | 196 -> 203                     | 0.43942    |
|                               | 198 -> 202 | 0.13378    |                                | 196 -> 204                     | -0.11446   |
|                               | 198 -> 203 | 0.24504    |                                |                                |            |
|                               | 199 -> 202 | -0.10008   |                                |                                |            |
|                               | 199 -> 204 | 0.52258    |                                |                                |            |



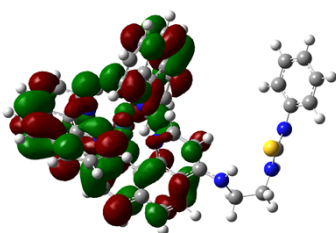
LUMO+5 (205)



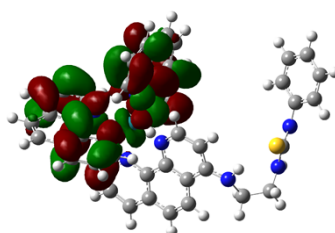
LUMO+4 (204)



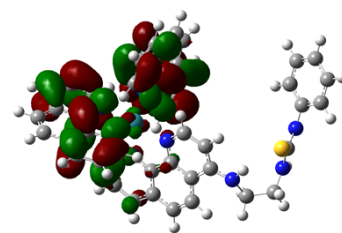
LUMO+3 (203)



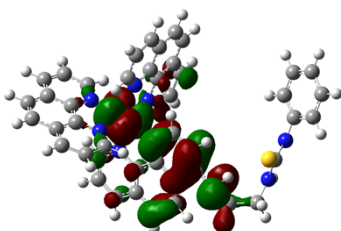
LUMO+2 (202)



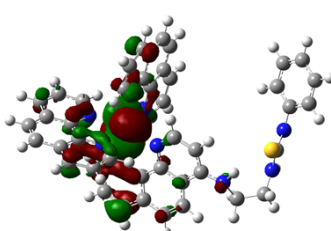
LUMO+1 (201)



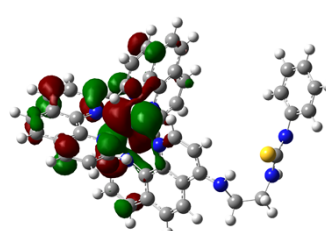
LUMO (200)



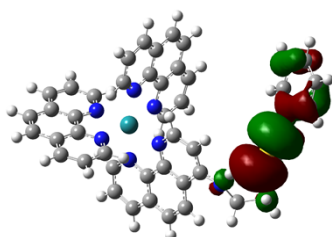
HOMO (199)



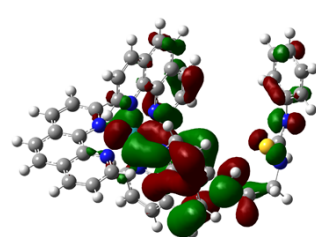
HOMO-1 (198)



HOMO-2 (197)



HOMO-3 (196)

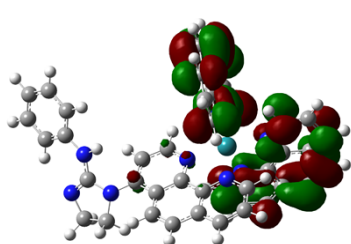


HOMO-5 (194)

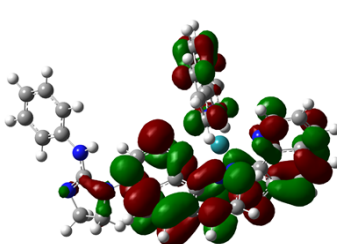
**Table S4** TD-DFT calculated singlet absorption data for **Ruphen-2** (Selected absorption wavelength > 350 nm)

| state<br>( <i>E</i> /nm, o.s.) | transition | coefficient | state<br>( <i>E</i> /nm, o.s.) | transition | coefficient |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| <b>S1</b><br>(462.15, 0.0043)  | 188 -> 191 | 0.28093     | <b>S12</b><br>(404.16, 0.1119) | 187 -> 191 | 0.12467     |
|                                | 188 -> 193 | -0.13097    |                                | 188 -> 194 | 0.42589     |
|                                | 190 -> 191 | 0.56096     |                                | 188 -> 196 | 0.15005     |
|                                | 190 -> 192 | -0.16406    |                                | 190 -> 194 | -0.24625    |
|                                | 190 -> 193 | -0.21246    |                                | 190 -> 196 | 0.41255     |
| <b>S2</b><br>(461.04, 0.0015)  | 188 -> 191 | 0.10646     | <b>S13</b><br>(400.26, 0.0101) | 188 -> 195 | -0.10231    |
|                                | 188 -> 192 | 0.33149     |                                | 189 -> 191 | 0.53192     |
|                                | 190 -> 191 | 0.18203     |                                | 189 -> 193 | 0.32086     |
|                                | 190 -> 192 | 0.56793     |                                | 189 -> 194 | 0.24837     |
| <b>S3</b><br>(454.20, 0.0091)  | 188 -> 192 | -0.11351    |                                | 189 -> 195 | -0.15046    |
|                                | 188 -> 193 | 0.34222     | <b>S14</b><br>(397.17, 0.0454) | 187 -> 193 | -0.12617    |
|                                | 190 -> 191 | 0.22316     |                                | 187 -> 194 | 0.62433     |
|                                | 190 -> 193 | 0.54129     |                                | 188 -> 195 | 0.14912     |
| <b>S4</b><br>(440.55, 0.0133)  | 188 -> 191 | 0.5125      |                                | 188 -> 196 | -0.18478    |
|                                | 188 -> 192 | -0.31132    | <b>S15</b><br>(394.20, 0.0094) | 187 -> 192 | 0.10202     |
|                                | 188 -> 193 | -0.14738    |                                | 187 -> 195 | -0.18835    |
|                                | 190 -> 191 | -0.22207    |                                | 188 -> 193 | 0.11832     |
|                                | 190 -> 192 | 0.12834     |                                | 188 -> 194 | -0.10069    |
| <b>S5</b><br>(438.74, 0.0160)  | 187 -> 191 | 0.18694     |                                | 188 -> 195 | 0.37249     |
|                                | 187 -> 192 | 0.20972     |                                | 188 -> 196 | 0.45726     |
|                                | 187 -> 193 | -0.21183    |                                | 190 -> 195 | -0.11169    |
|                                | 188 -> 191 | 0.30979     |                                | 190 -> 196 | -0.12287    |
|                                | 188 -> 192 | 0.40643     | <b>S16</b><br>(390.92, 0.0439) | 187 -> 194 | -0.25784    |
|                                | 190 -> 191 | -0.1559     |                                | 188 -> 195 | 0.43295     |
|                                | 190 -> 192 | -0.22936    |                                | 188 -> 196 | -0.35959    |
| <b>S6</b><br>(429.01, 0.0239)  | 187 -> 191 | 0.51643     |                                | 189 -> 195 | -0.14804    |
|                                | 187 -> 192 | 0.12102     |                                | 190 -> 195 | -0.14954    |
|                                | 187 -> 193 | 0.26008     |                                | 190 -> 196 | 0.15133     |
|                                | 188 -> 193 | -0.28297    | <b>S17</b><br>(387.06, 0.0043) | 189 -> 191 | 0.37641     |
|                                | 188 -> 194 | -0.10113    |                                | 189 -> 192 | 0.35128     |
|                                | 190 -> 193 | 0.16911     |                                | 189 -> 193 | -0.28119    |
| <b>S7</b><br>(426.25, 0.0184)  | 187 -> 191 | 0.29048     |                                | 189 -> 194 | -0.31589    |
|                                | 188 -> 192 | -0.16681    |                                | 189 -> 195 | 0.19254     |
|                                | 188 -> 193 | 0.21256     | <b>S18</b><br>(385.17, 0.0030) | 187 -> 192 | -0.10849    |
|                                | 188 -> 194 | 0.21825     |                                | 187 -> 195 | 0.58249     |
|                                | 190 -> 192 | 0.10598     |                                | 187 -> 196 | -0.25588    |
|                                | 190 -> 193 | -0.20911    |                                | 188 -> 195 | 0.11871     |
|                                | 190 -> 194 | 0.44972     |                                | 188 -> 196 | 0.18013     |
| <b>S8</b>                      | 187 -> 191 | -0.27728    | <b>S19</b>                     | 187 -> 196 | -0.16508    |

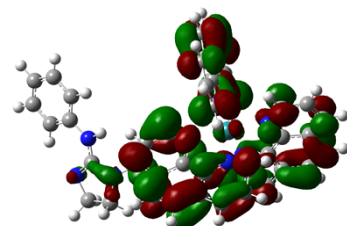
|                                |            |          |                                |            |          |
|--------------------------------|------------|----------|--------------------------------|------------|----------|
| (422.29, 0.1239)               | 187 -> 192 | 0.43555  | (382.63, 0.0095)               | 188 -> 195 | 0.11494  |
|                                | 188 -> 193 | -0.24077 |                                | 189 -> 192 | -0.10656 |
|                                | 188 -> 194 | 0.14059  |                                | 189 -> 193 | 0.46818  |
|                                | 188 -> 195 | 0.11734  |                                | 189 -> 194 | -0.36953 |
|                                | 190 -> 193 | 0.10913  |                                | 189 -> 195 | 0.25544  |
|                                | 190 -> 194 | 0.28625  | <b>S20</b>                     | 187 -> 195 | 0.28402  |
|                                | 190 -> 195 | 0.12086  |                                | 187 -> 196 | 0.60233  |
| <b>S9</b><br>(419.63, 0.0705)  | 187 -> 192 | -0.16645 | (381.43, 0.0444)               | 188 -> 195 | 0.10611  |
|                                | 187 -> 193 | 0.53498  |                                | 189 -> 191 | -0.23034 |
|                                | 187 -> 194 | 0.13547  | <b>S21</b><br>(377.26, 0.0002) | 189 -> 192 | 0.59196  |
|                                | 188 -> 192 | 0.19859  |                                | 189 -> 193 | 0.25472  |
|                                | 188 -> 193 | 0.11993  |                                | 189 -> 194 | 0.10747  |
|                                | 188 -> 194 | 0.15154  | <b>S22</b><br>(371.57, 0.0030) | 187 -> 192 | 0.39228  |
|                                | 188 -> 195 | -0.11814 |                                | 187 -> 193 | 0.18056  |
| <b>S10</b><br>(408.91, 0.0423) | 190 -> 192 | 0.13242  |                                | 187 -> 195 | 0.17413  |
|                                | 190 -> 194 | 0.13276  |                                | 188 -> 192 | -0.11182 |
|                                | 187 -> 192 | -0.10061 |                                | 188 -> 193 | 0.28648  |
|                                | 188 -> 194 | -0.22824 |                                | 188 -> 194 | -0.12551 |
|                                | 188 -> 195 | 0.12699  |                                | 188 -> 195 | -0.10605 |
| <b>S11</b><br>(407.44, 0.1071) | 190 -> 195 | 0.53743  |                                | 188 -> 196 | -0.10008 |
|                                | 190 -> 196 | 0.30385  |                                | 190 -> 193 | -0.17343 |
|                                | 188 -> 194 | -0.32604 |                                | 190 -> 194 | -0.2221  |
|                                | 188 -> 195 | -0.18451 | <b>S23</b><br>(368.53, 0.0012) | 189 -> 194 | 0.34212  |
|                                | 188 -> 196 | 0.14495  |                                | 189 -> 195 | 0.44736  |
|                                | 190 -> 194 | 0.21732  |                                | 189 -> 196 | -0.39247 |
|                                | 190 -> 195 | -0.35072 |                                |            |          |
|                                | 190 -> 196 | 0.37278  |                                |            |          |



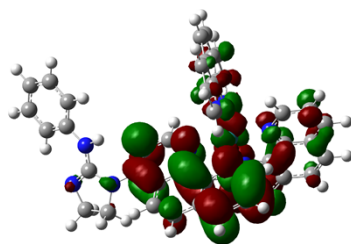
LUMO+5 (196)



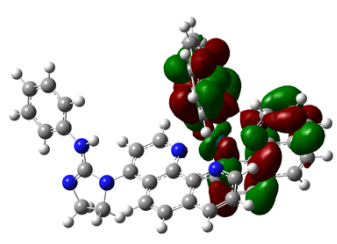
LUMO+4 (195)



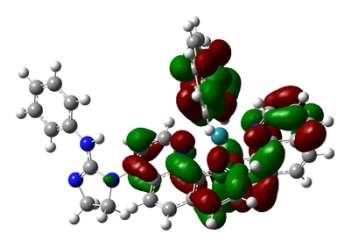
LUMO+3 (194)



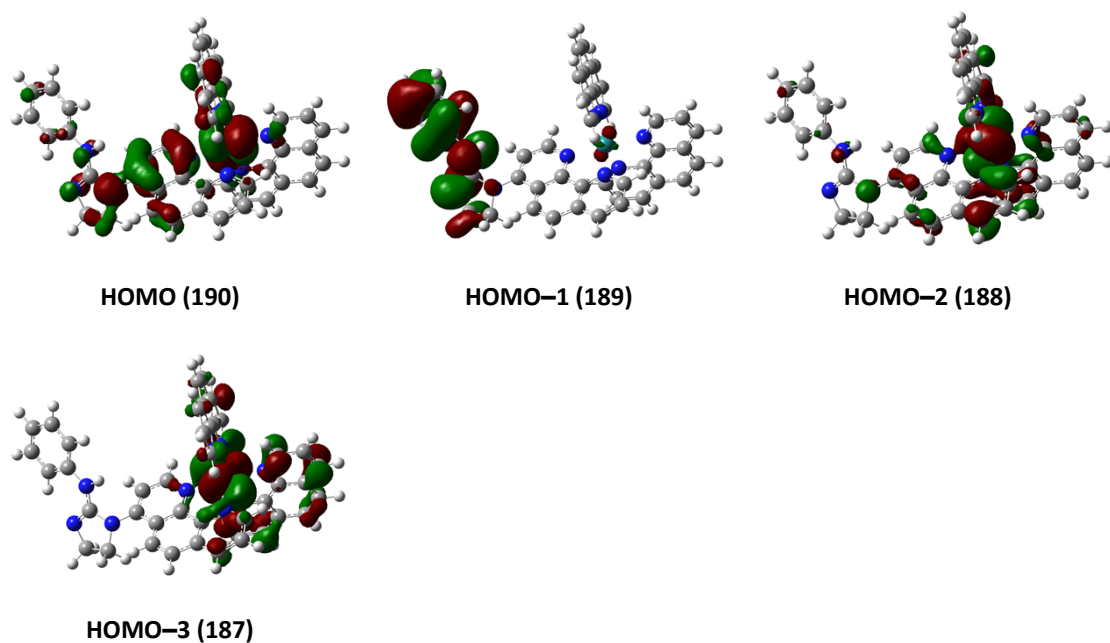
LUMO+2 (193)



LUMO+1 (192)



LUMO (191)

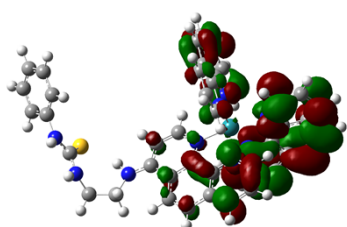
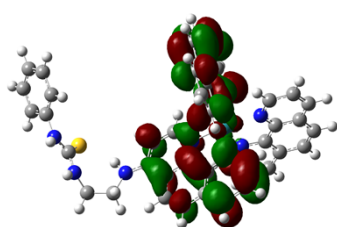
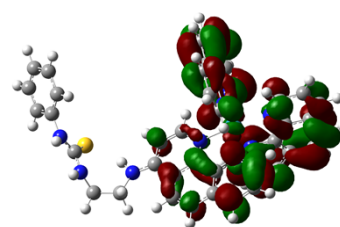
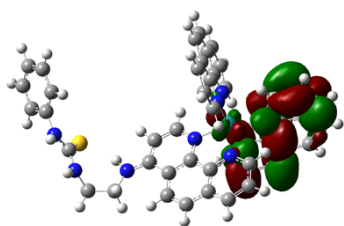
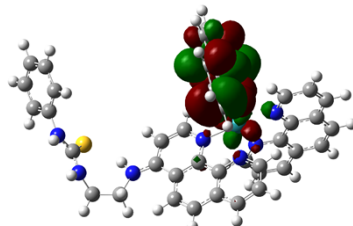
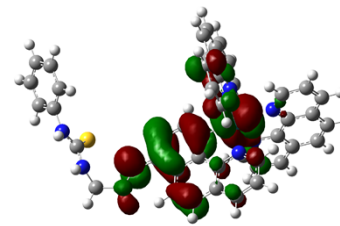
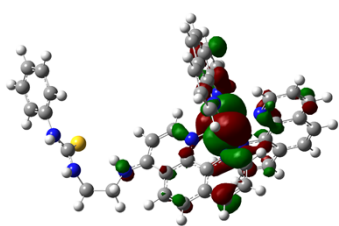
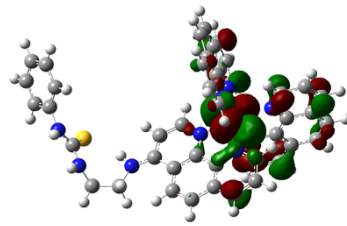


**Table S5** Molecular orbital compositions of **Ruphen-1** under TD-DFT triplet excitation calculation (Emission transition study)

| Orbital | Energy (eV) | MO contribution (%) |           |                        |       |
|---------|-------------|---------------------|-----------|------------------------|-------|
|         |             | Ru                  | 1,10-phen | L<br>substituent group | 2phen |
| LUMO+6  | − 1.32138   | 2.28                | 12.77     | 0.51                   | 84.44 |
| LUMO+5  | − 1.99840   | 1.27                | 88.92     | 8.10                   | 1.71  |
| LUMO+4  | − 2.34997   | 1.23                | 17.72     | 0.11                   | 80.94 |
| LUMO+3  | − 2.37447   | 3.90                | 50.33     | 0.41                   | 45.36 |
| LUMO+2  | − 2.43243   | 2.98                | 24.67     | 0.11                   | 72.24 |
| LUMO+1  | − 2.51188   | 5.29                | 1.28      | 0.02                   | 93.41 |
| LUMO    | − 2.81066   | 6.51                | 2.31      | 0.13                   | 91.05 |
| HOMO    | − 5.64827   | 46.33               | 30.34     | 12.68                  | 10.66 |
| HOMO-1  | − 6.15630   | 76.35               | 8.99      | 0.92                   | 13.74 |
| HOMO-2  | − 6.19875   | 70.63               | 6.94      | 0.22                   | 22.21 |
| HOMO-3  | − 6.36365   | 0.15                | 0.49      | 99.31                  | 0.04  |
| HOMO-4  | − 6.58107   | 3.33                | 2.96      | 92.10                  | 1.60  |
| HOMO-5  | − 6.69999   | 24.23               | 37.95     | 22.47                  | 15.34 |
| HOMO-6  | − 6.95224   | 0.01                | 0.26      | 99.73                  | 0.00  |

**Table S6** TD-DFT excitation calculation for emission of **Ruphen-1**.

| State | Transition    | Contribution(%) | $E$ ,nm(eV) | o.s.   | Assignment                                              |
|-------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| T1    | HOMO→LUMO     | 93.3            | 688 (1.80)  |        | <sup>3</sup> MLCT/ <sup>3</sup> LLCT                    |
| S1    | HOMO→LUMO     | 91.2            | 581 (2.13)  | 0.0323 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT/ <sup>1</sup> LLCT                    |
| S2    | HOMO→LUMO+1   | 97.8            | 516 (2.41)  | 0.0017 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT/ <sup>1</sup> LLCT                    |
| S3    | HOMO-1→LUMO   | 73.3            | 505 (2.46)  | 0.0104 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT                                       |
| S4    | HOMO→LUMO+2   | 72.1            | 487 (2.55)  | 0.0284 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT/ <sup>1</sup> ILCT/ <sup>1</sup> LLCT |
| S5    | HOMO-2→LUMO   | 53.6            | 482 (2.57)  | 0.0361 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT/ <sup>1</sup> ILCT                    |
| S6    | HOMO→LUMO+4   | 57.3            | 464 (2.67)  | 0.0207 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT/ <sup>1</sup> ILCT/ <sup>1</sup> LLCT |
| S7    | HOMO→LUMO+3   | 39.7            | 459 (2.70)  | 0.0488 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT/ <sup>1</sup> ILCT/ <sup>1</sup> LLCT |
|       | HOMO→LUMO+4   | 41.9            |             |        | <sup>1</sup> MLCT/ <sup>1</sup> ILCT/ <sup>1</sup> LLCT |
| S8    | HOMO-1→LUMO+1 | 100             | 442 (2.81)  | 0.0045 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT                                       |

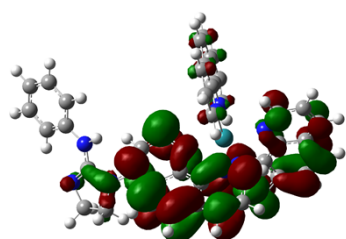
**LUMO+4****LUMO+3****LUMO+2****LUMO+1****LUMO****HOMO****HOMO-1****HOMO-2**

**Table S7** Molecular orbital compositions of **Ruphen-2** under TD-DFT triplet excitation calculation (Emission transition study)

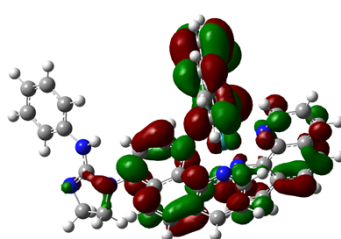
| Orbital | Energy (eV) | MO contribution (%) |           |                        |       |
|---------|-------------|---------------------|-----------|------------------------|-------|
|         |             | Ru                  | 1,10-phen | L<br>substituent group | 2phen |
| LUMO+6  | − 1.39241   | 2.20                | 32.98     | 1.22                   | 63.61 |
| LUMO+5  | − 2.38317   | 1.00                | 10.17     | 1.27                   | 87.55 |
| LUMO+4  | − 2.39460   | 0.91                | 61.98     | 4.70                   | 32.42 |
| LUMO+3  | − 2.44821   | 2.80                | 23.62     | 2.46                   | 71.12 |
| LUMO+2  | − 2.52331   | 5.92                | 63.55     | 1.30                   | 29.23 |
| LUMO+1  | − 2.55678   | 4.69                | 20.52     | 0.88                   | 73.91 |
| LUMO    | − 2.85937   | 6.09                | 3.05      | 0.26                   | 90.61 |
| HOMO    | − 5.92092   | 56.03               | 18.17     | 12.51                  | 13.29 |
| HOMO−1  | − 6.14351   | 1.06                | 0.85      | 97.88                  | 0.22  |
| HOMO−2  | − 6.26297   | 72.46               | 9.86      | 3.95                   | 13.73 |
| HOMO−3  | − 6.29562   | 69.50               | 6.30      | 0.31                   | 23.89 |
| HOMO−4  | − 6.76557   | 19.08               | 26.23     | 41.65                  | 13.03 |
| HOMO−5  | − 7.20829   | 0.11                | 2.53      | 95.94                  | 1.42  |
| HOMO−6  | − 7.25319   | 4.97                | 2.45      | 1.00                   | 91.59 |

**Table S8** TD-DFT excitation calculation for emission of **Ruphen-2**.

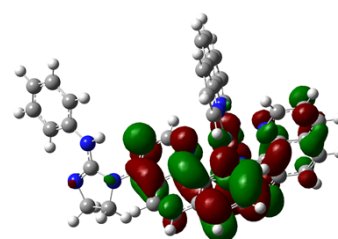
| State | Transition    | Contribution | $E, \text{nm(eV)}$ | o.s.   | Assignment                                              |
|-------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| T1    | HOMO→LUMO     | 90.0         | 638 (1.94)         |        | <sup>3</sup> MLCT/ <sup>3</sup> LLCT                    |
| S1    | HOMO→LUMO     | 85.1         | 543 (2.29)         | 0.0199 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT/ <sup>1</sup> LLCT                    |
| S2    | HOMO−2→LUMO   | 57.1         | 489 (2.53)         | 0.0096 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT                                       |
| S3    | HOMO→LUMO+1   | 68.1         | 478 (2.59)         | 0.0031 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT/ <sup>1</sup> ILCT/ <sup>1</sup> LLCT |
| S4    | HOMO→LUMO+2   | 49.2         | 472 (2.62)         | 0.0552 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT/ <sup>1</sup> ILCT/ <sup>1</sup> LLCT |
| S5    | HOMO−3→LUMO   | 38.0         | 463 (2.68)         | 0.0408 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT/ <sup>1</sup> ILCT                    |
|       | HOMO−2→LUMO   | 23.0         |                    |        | <sup>1</sup> MLCT                                       |
| S6    | HOMO→LUMO+3   | 66.6         | 435 (2.85)         | 0.0563 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT/ <sup>1</sup> ILCT/ <sup>1</sup> LLCT |
| S7    | HOMO−2→LUMO+1 | 54.7         | 430 (2.88)         | 0.0011 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT                                       |
| S8    | HOMO→LUMO+4   | 74.5         | 428 (2.90)         | 0.0390 | <sup>1</sup> MLCT/ <sup>1</sup> ILCT/ <sup>1</sup> LLCT |



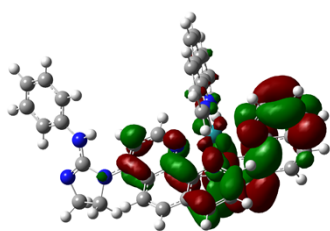
LUMO+4



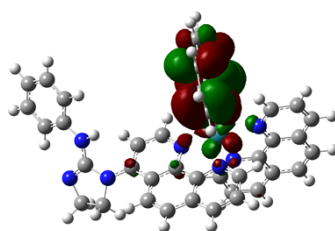
LUMO+3



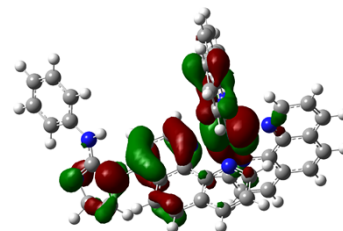
LUMO+2



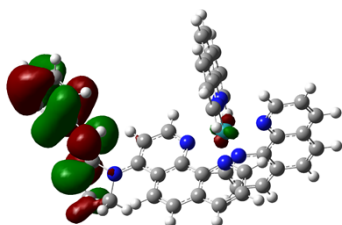
LUMO+1



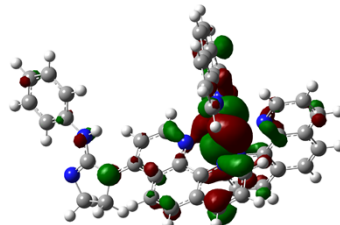
LUMO



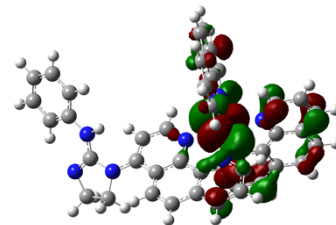
HOMO



HOMO-1



HOMO-2



HOMO-3