## Pyrazole appended quinoline-BODIPY based arene ruthenium complexes: their anticancer activity and potential applications in cellular imaging

Rajendra Prasad Paitandi<sup>a</sup>, Vinay Sharma<sup>b</sup>, Vishwa Deepak Singh<sup>a</sup>, Bhupendra Kumar Dwivedi<sup>a</sup>, Shaikh M. Mobin<sup>b,c,d</sup>, and Daya Shankar Pandey<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Chemistry, Institute of Science, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi - 221005 (UP), India.

<sup>b</sup>Discipline of Biosciences and Bio-Medical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Indore, Simrol, Indore-453552, India.

<sup>c</sup>Discipline of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Indore, Simrol, Indore-453552, India.

<sup>d</sup>Metallurgical Engineering and Material Science, Indian Institute of Technology Indore, Simrol, Indore-453552, India.

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Fig. S1  $^{1}$ H (a) and  $^{13}$ C (b) NMR spectra of L1 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S2  $^{1}$ H (a) and  $^{13}$ C (b) NMR spectra of 1 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



Fig. S3  $^{1}$ H (a) and  $^{13}$ C (b) NMR spectra of 2 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Fig. S4**  $^{1}$ H (a) and  $^{13}$ C (b) NMR spectra of **3** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S5  $^{1}$ H (a) and  $^{13}$ C (b) NMR spectra of 4 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S6 ESI-MS spectra of L1 (a), 1 (b) and 2 (c).



Fig. S7 ESI-MS spectra of 3 (a) and 4 (b).



**Fig. S8** UV–Vis spectra of **1–3** in PBS with increasing concentrations of CT-DNA (0–20  $\mu$ M) at room temperature. Arrow shows absorbance changes with increasing CT-DNA concentration.



Fig. S9 Emission spectra of DNA–EB system in absence (--- black line) and presence of 1–3  $[EB = 10 \ \mu\text{M}, [DNA] = 100 \ \mu\text{M}, [1–3] = 0–50 \ \mu\text{M}]$ . Arrow shows changes in emission intensity upon addition of increasing concentration of the complexes.



**Fig. S10** (a) Plot of [DNA]/ $(\epsilon_a - \epsilon_f)$  vs. [DNA] for **1–4** from UV-Vis (b) Stern-Volmer plots of the EB-DNA fluorescence titration for complexes **1–4**.



Fig. S11 Fluorescence lifetime spectra of 1–2 and L1 (a) and 3–4 and L2 (b) in pure acetonitrile.



Fig. S12 Cyclic voltammogram of L1 (a) and L2 (b) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (c, 100  $\mu$ M) at room temperature.



Fig. S13 Cyclic voltammogram of 1 (a) and 2 (b) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (c, 100  $\mu$ M) at room temperature.



Fig. S14 Cyclic voltammogram of 3 (a) and 4 (b) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (c, 100  $\mu$ M) at room temperature.



**Fig. S15** Hydrolysis of **2** in 5% DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>/95% D<sub>2</sub>O (v/v) at 293K over a period of 24 h monitored by <sup>1</sup>H NMR; peaks labelled as ( $\checkmark$ ) correspond to the aqua complex after hydrolysis.



Fig. S16 UV-Vis spectrum for a 10  $\mu$ M solution of complexes 2 and 4 (dark) in PBS (1% DMSO) recorded over 12 h at 298 K.



Fig. S17 UV-Vis spectrum for a 10  $\mu$ M solution of complexes 2 and 4 (light) in PBS (1% DMSO) recorded over 2 h at 298 K.



Fig. S18 DFT optimised structures and Frontier MOs contour plots for complexes 1–3.



**Fig. S19** Molecular docked model for complex **1** with DNA (PDB ID: 1BNA). Open (left) and closed (right) view of the docked model.



**Fig. S20** Molecular docked model for complex **2** with DNA (PDB ID: 1BNA). Open (left) and closed (right) view of the docked model.



**Fig. S21** Molecularky docked model for complex **3** with DNA (PDB ID: 1BNA). Open (left) and closed (right) view of the docked model.



**Fig. S22** Absorption spectral changes for DPBF and complex 1–3 (5  $\mu$ M) upon exposure to visible light (400–700 nm, 10 J cm<sup>-2</sup>) after 5 s interval.



**Fig. S23** Flow cytometer analysis of DCFDA in the presence of complex 1–3 upon exposure of visible light on HeLa cells.



**Fig. S24** Fluorescence microscopic images of HeLa cells in the presence of complexes **1–3** using LysoTracker Red (Scale bar–40µm).



Fig. S25 Fluorescence microscopic images of HeLa cells in the presence of complexes 1-3 using MitoTracker Red (Scale bar-40 $\mu$ m).

Bond	L1	Bond	1	Bond	4
length (Å)		length (Å)		length (Å)	
B1-N1	1.533	Ru1–N3	2.160	Ru1–N3	2.130
B1 –N2	1.549	Ru1–N5	2.040	Ru1–N5	2.064
B1 –F1	1.377	Ru1–Cl1	2.398	Ru1–Cl1	2.387
B1 -F2	1.377	Ru1–Cg	1.685	Ru1–Cg	2.199
C5 –C10	1.483	Ru1–Cav	2.189	Ru1–Cav	1.683
Bond		Bond		Bond	
Angle (°)		Angle (°)		Angle (°)	
N1- B1-N2	105.87°	N3- Ru1-N5	75.40°	N3- Ru1-N5	74.77°
F1- B1-F2	109.76°	N3- Ru1-Cl1	85.26°	N3- Ru1-Cl1	86.92°
N1- B1-F1	110.57°	N5-Ru1-Cl1	84.31°	N5-Ru1-Cl1	87.55°
N2- B1-F2	110.17°	Cg–Ru1–Cl1	130.51°	Cg–Ru1–Cl1	128.60°
N1- B1-F2	110.46°	Cg– Ru1–N3	134.08°	Cg–Ru1–N3	131.65°
N5- B1-F1	109.96°	Cg-Ru1-N5	127.70°	Cg–Ru1–N5	129.42°

Table S1. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for L1, 1 and 4.

**Table S2**: Changes in UV-Vis of **1–4** increasing concentrations of CT-DNA (0–20  $\mu$ M) at room temperature.

Complex	$\lambda_{abs}$	Changes in molar	% Hypochroism
	(nm)	extinction coefficient	
		$\mathcal{E}(M^{-1}cm^{-1}) \ge 10^4$	
1	512	4.51-3.80	15.7%
	336	2.02-1.76	12.8%
2	511	6.00-5.00	16.6%
	339	2.57-2.20	14.4%
3	512	6.05-5.07	16.1%
	346	2.76-2.39	13.40%
4	511	5.54-4.52	18.4%
	349	2.28-1.95	14.5%

**Table S3.** Log *P* Values for the complexes 1–4.

Log P				
Complex	Mean	SD		
1	0.90	0.02		
2	0.84	0.03		
3	0.77	0.02		
4	0.69	0.02		

Results are the means of three independent experiments and are expressed as means  $\pm$  SDs.

**Table S4.** Fluorescence lifetime and electrochemical data of ligands L1–L2 and complexes 1–4 in acetonitrile.

Compound	λ <sub>em</sub> (nm)	Quantum yield (%)	<τ <sub>avg</sub> > (ns)	Е <sub>рс,</sub> (V)
L1	520	18	0.75	-0.85
L2	521	13	0.95	-0.90
1	528	3.9	0.55	-0.75
2	530	6.4	0.50	-0.80
3	529	3.9	0.65	-0.82
4	530	4.1	0.35	-0.86

Fluorescence quantum yield in acetonitrile solution estimated using Rhodamine 6G as standard ( $\Phi_F = 95\%$  in water).

**Table S5**: Kinetic data for the hydrolysis of complex **2** and **4** monitored by UV-Vis at 298 K at dark(a; up to 12 h) and light (b; up to 2 h; 400–700 nm, 10 J cm<sup>-2</sup>)

Compound	k(min <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	t <sub>1/2</sub> (min) <sup>a</sup>	k(min <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>b</sup>	$t_{1/2}(\min)^b$
2	0.00045	1540	0.002	346.5
4	0.00060	1155	0.003	231