

## Model of G-quadruplex Interactions with Heterocyclic Ligands

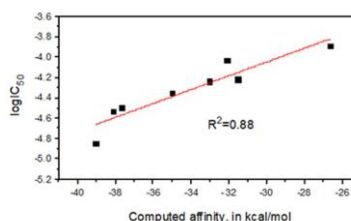
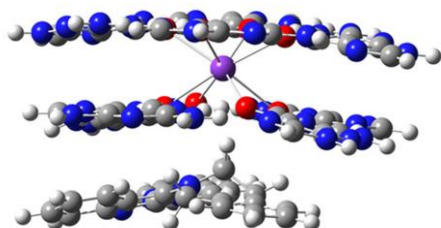
J. Kaneti\* and S. M. Bakalova

*Institute of Organic Chemistry with Centre of Phytochemistry, 1113 Sofia, Bulgaria*

*\*[Jose.kaneti@orgchm.bas.bg](mailto:Jose.kaneti@orgchm.bas.bg)*

We offer a contribution to methodology of targeting important regulatory nucleic acid structures, G-quadruplexes. A model of their interaction with potentially anticancer hetero-polycyclic molecules is developed using methods of its precision computation by quantum chemistry.<sup>1</sup> Further we use quantitative characterizations of biological activity of studied heterocycles.<sup>2</sup> We find meaningful relationships of computed molecular energetic values, namely affinity of heterocyclic ligands to a model G-quadruplex, and experimental values of pharmacological characteristics, e.g.  $IC_{50}$ .<sup>3</sup> Applied quantum chemistry theories are DFT, e.g. using wB97XD/6-31G\*, and explicitly correlated MO theory,<sup>1,3</sup> e.g. in the RI-MP2 form. These types of QSAR may be significant in the quest for novel anticancer and other medications, provided G-quadruplex regulation of the key biological process is involved.

The reported research has been supported by Grant KP-06-N59/1, 15.11.2021 from the Bulgarian NSF, the allotted computer facilities of e-infrastructure of the NCHDC under Grant D01-168/28.07.2022, and Consortium Petascale Supercomputer - Bulgaria and EuroHPC supercomputer.



**Keywords:** G-quadruplexes, quantum chemical model, ligand affinity, cancer  $IC_{50}$

### References:

1. Kaneti, J., *et al.*, Biological activity of quinazoline analogues and molecular modeling of their interactions with G-quadruplexes. *BBA-Gen. Subjects* **2021**, 1865 (1), 129773. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bbagen.2020.129773>.
2. Bakalova, S. M., *et al.*, Modern Approaches to Cancer Treatment. *Lecture Notes in Bioinformatics* **2022**, 13346, 1 – 11. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-07704-3\\_18](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-07704-3_18)
3. Kaneti, J., *et al.*, Small Heterocyclic Ligands as Anticancer Agents: QSAR with a Model G-Quadruplex. *Molecules* **2022**, 27 (21), 7577. <https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules27217577>