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Spectroscopic analysis of 8-hydroxyquinoline-5-sulphonic acid and investigation of its reactive properties by DFT and molecular dynamics simulations

Sureshkumar B<sup>a</sup>, Sheena Mary Y<sup>b\*</sup>, C.Yohannan Panicker<sup>b</sup>, K.S.Resmi<sup>b</sup>, Suma.S<sup>a</sup>, Stevan Armaković<sup>e</sup>, Sanja J. Armaković<sup>d</sup>, C.Van Alsenoy<sup>e</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Chemistry, SN College, Kollam, Kerala, India

<sup>b</sup>Department of Physics, Fatima Mata National College, Kollam, Kerala, India

<sup>c</sup>University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Physics, Trg D. Obradovića 4, 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia

<sup>d</sup>University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Chemistry, Biochemistry and Environmental Protection, Trg D. Obradovića 3, 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia

<sup>e</sup>Department of Chemistry, University of Antwerp, Groenenborgerlaan 171, B-2020, Antwerp, Belgium

\*author for correspondence: email: sypanicker@rediffmail.com

#### **Abstract**

Int of Chemistry, SN College, Kollam, Kerala, India<br>
nt of Physics, Fatima Mata National College, Kollam, Kerala, India<br>
16 of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Physics, Trg D. Obradovi<br>
18 Sad, Serbia<br>
18 Sad, A detailed interpretation of the FT-IR and FT-Raman spectra has been performed on the basis of the observed and calculated infrared and Raman spectra as well as calculated potential energy distribution values. Comparison of Raman and SERS spectra suggests a tilted orientation of the rings on the metal surface. The dipole moment, polarizability and first and second order hyperpolarizability values of the molecule were calculated. Global reactivity parameters were predicted. The relative reactivities towards electrophilic and nucleophilic attack are predicted using molecular electrostatic potential map. Average local ionization energy (ALIE) and Fukui functions have been inspected in order to investigate local reactivity properties of title molecule. The importance of autoxidation and hydrolysis mechanisms for the title molecule has been assessed by DFT calculations of bond dissociation energies (BDE) and by calculations of radial distribution functions (RDFs) after molecular dynamics (MD) simulations. Molecular docking studies suggest that the title compound can be a lead compound for developing new anti-cancerous drug.

**Keywords**: DFT; Quinoline; SERS; ALIE; RDF; Molecular docking.

# **1. Introduction**

8-hydroxyquinoline and its derivatives have wide applications in various fields, light emitting diodes [1], nuclear medicine [2], treating cancer [3] and neurodegenerative disorder

d as analytical reagent in the manufacture of disinfectants, deodorants, antiser<br>for the treatment of minor wounds, for disinfecting skin and purificatio<br>dater in case of amoebicidal and bactericidal emergencies. Recently [4]. The luminescence properties of 8-hydroxyquinoline complexes are widely used for the detection and quantification of metal ions [5-7] and for the selective metal ion determination by use of time resolved measurements [8]. Vitali et al. [9] was developed a novel carbon paste electrode containing chitosan cross linked with the chelating agent 8-hydroxyquinoline-5-sulphonic acid and glutaraldehyde for the determination of Cu(II). Substituted sulphonic acid is used as analytical reagent in the manufacture of disinfectants, deodorants, antiseptics, medicines, for the treatment of minor wounds, for disinfecting skin and purification of drinking water in case of amoebicidal and bactericidal emergencies. Recently a number of vibrational, DFT computational and molecular docking studies of quinoline derivatives are reported in literature [10-16]. Since title molecule is a candidate to be used as an active component of some future pharmaceutical product we decided to investigate its local reactivity properties from the ecological aspect. Namely, molecules with possibly important biological activities are very stable in aquatic mediums, leading to their accumulation [17]. So far such organic compounds have been detected in all types of water and what is of great concern is that conventional water purification methods are not efficient enough to remove them [18,19]. To properly treat the waste waters it is proposed to use advanced oxidation procedures [18, 20-25]. Procedures based on advanced oxidation processes are rather complicated because different pharmaceutical molecules have different reactive properties. In order to predict reactive properties of organic molecules the principles of molecular modeling are frequently applied [26-29], in such way optimizing and rationalizing the experimental procedures related to degradation of pharmaceutical pollutants. It is well established that autoxidation mechanism is closely related with the bond dissociation energies for hydrogen abstraction, which are readily calculated within DFT approach. On the other side the influence of solvent (water) can be assessed by calculations of radial distribution functions (RDF) after molecular dynamics (MD) simulations. In the present work, the vibrational spectroscopic analysis of 8-hydroxy quinoline- 5-sulphonic acid (8HQ5SA), SERS study, molecular dynamics and molecular docking studies are reported.

#### **2. Experimental details**

A fine sample of 8HQ5SA was obtained from Sigma Aldrich chemical company, USA and used without any further purification for spectral measurements. The FT-IR spectrum (Fig.1) of 8HQ5SA was recorded in the region 4000-400 cm-1 using Perkin-Elmer spectrum RX1 spectrometer equipped with Helium-Neon laser source, potassium bromide beam splitter and LiTaO3 detector. The sample was prepared by pressing 8HQ5SA with KBr into pellet form. The FT-Raman spectrum (Fig.2) of 8HQ5SA was recorded in 4000-0 cm<sup>-1</sup> with a Nocolet model 950 FT-Raman spectrometer at 4 cm<sup>-1</sup> spectral resolution using the 1064 nm line of a Nd:YAG laser for excitation at a 200 mW output power. The silver colloid was prepared by the reported protocol in literature [30, 31] and aged for two weeks before being used for the SERS analysis. The solutions were prepared with distilled, deionized water and SERS samples as reported in literature [32]. The SERS spectrum (Fig.3) was carried in aplha500RA confocal Raman microscope using 488 nm.

#### **3. Computational details**

aman microscope using 488 nm.<br>
mputational details<br>
T calculations of 8HQ5SA were performed using Gaussian 09 software pac<br>
LVP functional combined with aug-CC-pVDZ (5D, 7F) basis set to obtain<br>
geometry (Fig.4). The theo DFT calculations of 8HQ5SA were performed using Gaussian 09 software package [33] at B3LYP functional combined with aug-CC-pVDZ (5D, 7F) basis set to obtain the optimized geometry (Fig.4). The theoretically obtained wavenumbers are scaled by a scaling factor of 0.9613 [34] and the vibrational assignments are done by Gaussview program [35] and with the help of potential energy distribution [36]. In this work we have used Jaguar 9.0 program [37] for DFT calculations of ALIE, Fukui functions and BDEs with B3LYP exchange-correlation functional  $[38-42]$  and with  $6-311++G(d,p)$ ,  $6-31+G(d,p)$  and  $6-$ 311G(d,p) basis sets, respectively. For MD simulations Desmond [39] program has been used with OPLS 2005 force field [43] within isothermal–isobaric (NPT) ensemble class. Other important MD parameters include simulation time set to 10 ns, temperature to 300 K, pressure to 1.0325 bar and cut off radius to 12 Å. Modeled system was created by placing of one 8HQ5SA molecule into the cubic box with ~3000 molecules with simple point charge (SPC) model [44] used for the theoretical treatment of solvent. Thanks to the method of Johnson et al. [45, 46], implemented into the Jaguar program, the analysis of electron density was conducted in order to determine intramolecular noncovalent interactions. Maestro GUI [47] was used for the preparation of input files and analysis of results obtained with Jaguar and Desmond programs. Maestro, Jaguar and Desmond programs were used as implemented in Schrödinger Materials Science Suite 2015-4.

#### **4. Results and discussion**

In the present discussion, the rings,  $C_3$ - $C_4$ - $C_9$ - $C_{11}$ - $C_{12}$ - $C_8$  and  $C_1$ - $C_2$ - $C_3$ - $C_4$ - $N_{15}$ - $C_5$  are designated as PhI and PhII, respectively.

# **4.1 Geometrical parameters**

The optimized geometrical parameters of 8HQ5SA are given in table 1. The  $C_9$ - $C_{11}$ bond length of 8HQ5SA is 1.3811Å which is less than that of  $C_9$ - $C_4$  (1.4360 Å) because of the delocalization of electrons due to the presence of C-OH group. Also the bond length of  $C_8$ -C<sub>12</sub> (1.3838 Å) is less than that of C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> (1.4300 Å) owing to the delocalization of electrons. The large value of the bond length of  $C_4$ -C<sub>3</sub> (1.4260 Å) is due to the delocalization

of electron density due to the adjacent quinoline ring. The  $C_4$ -N<sub>15</sub> and  $C_5$ -N<sub>15</sub> bond lengths of 8HQ5SA are respectively, 1.3586 Å and 1.3202 Å while the reported values for similar derivatives are 1.3874 Å and 1.3345 Å [48] and 1.3662 Å and 1.3202 Å [49] and 1.3626 Å and 1.3187 Å [50]. For 8HQ5SA, the S=O bond lengths are, 1.4846 Å and 1.4786 Å and the reported values are 1.4613, 1.4564 Å [50], 1.4660, 1.4620 Å [48] and 1.4721, 1.4551 Å [49]. The reported value of the C-S bond length is 1.7770 Å [48], 1.7562 Å [49] and 1.7754 Å [50] and in the present case the corresponding C-S bond length is 1.7873  $\AA$ . The OSO and OSC bond angles of 8HQ5SA are, 119.5, 106.6, 108.5° and 112.1, 109.7° respectively while the reported values are 113.6, 111.9, 113.2° (OSO), 105.2, 106.5, 105.8° (OSC) [48] and 109.9, 111.0, 113.9° (OSO), 107.2, 107.7, 107.5° (OSC) [49] and 110.7, 113.2, 111.9° (OSO), 107.3, 107.2, 106.4° (OSC) [50]. The sulfonyl group is tilted from the phenyl ring as is evident from the torsion angles,  $C_{11}$ - $C_{12}$ - $C_8$ - $S_{18}$  = -179.5°,  $C_{12}$ - $C_8$ - $S_{18}$ - $O_{21}$  = -108.8°,  $C_4$ - $C_3$ - $S_8 - S_{18} = 179.9^\circ$  and  $C_3 - C_8 - S_{18} - O_{21} = 71.4^\circ$ .

# **4.2 IR and Raman spectra**

ed value of the C-S bond length is  $1.7770$  Å [48],  $1.7562$  Å [49] and  $1.7754$  Å<br>present case the corresponding C-S bond length is  $1.7873$  Å. The OSO and<br>so of 8HQ5SA are, 119.5, 106.6, 108.5° and 112.1, 109.7° respect The wavenumbers (calculated scaled, observed IR and Raman) and vibrational assignments of 8HQ5SA are presented in table 2. For 8HQ5SA, the bending modes (in-plane and out-of-plane) of the OH is assigned at  $1400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and at  $671 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  theoretically with PEDs 39 and 84%, which are expected in the ranges  $1400 \pm 40$  cm<sup>-1</sup> and  $650 \pm 80$  cm<sup>-1</sup> [51, 52]. These modes have IR intensities, 14.11 and 79.56 and Raman intensities, 100.97 and 1.39. Experimentally bands are seen in the Raman spectrum at 1408 and 677 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The C-O stretching mode is assigned at  $1260 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the Raman spectrum and at  $1255 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ theoretically with IR intensity, 114.67, Raman activity, 15.16 and PED value of 36% and according to literature, this vibration is in the region  $1220 \pm 40$  cm<sup>-1</sup> [51-53]. The reported values of C-O stretching and OH out-of-plane deformations are respectively, 1257 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 665 cm<sup>-1</sup> (DFT), 653 cm<sup>-1</sup> (IR), 667 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Raman) [54].

For 8HQ5SA, the SO<sub>2</sub> stretching vibrations are assigned at 1213 and 1030 cm<sup>-1</sup> theoretically which are expected in the range  $1300-1000$  cm<sup>-1</sup> [51] and experimentally bands are observed at 1035 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the IR spectrum and at 1217, 1035 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the Raman spectrum. The Raman activities of these modes are 7.26 and 8.50 while the IR intensities are high, 166.25 and 75.87 with PEDs 78 and 62%. The reported values of  $SO<sub>2</sub>$  stretching modes are at 1262, 1052 cm<sup>-1</sup> [55] and at 1306, 1114 cm<sup>-1</sup> by Sebastian et al. [56]. The deformation modes of the SO<sub>2</sub> moiety are in the regions,  $560 \pm 40$  cm<sup>-1</sup> (scissoring),  $550 \pm 55$  cm<sup>-1</sup> (wagging),  $440 \pm 50$  cm<sup>-1</sup> (twisting) and the rocking mode at around 350 cm<sup>-1</sup> [51]. For 8HQ5SA, the  $SO_2$  deformation modes are assigned at 493, 450, 406, 357, 267 cm<sup>-1</sup>

theoretically. Experimentally bands are observed at  $452 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the IR spectrum and at 404, 358, 267 cm-1 in the Raman spectrum. The Raman activities of these modes are less than 10 while these modes possess average IR intensities with PEDs ranging from 61 to 38%. The SO<sub>2</sub> deformations are reported at 569, 518, 388 cm<sup>-1</sup> in IR, 514 cm<sup>-1</sup> in Raman, 569, 511, 408, 388 cm-1 (DFT) [57]. By comparison with SOH bending wavenumbers in sulfuric acid and other sulphonic acids, the band at  $1187 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  is assigned to SOH bend of 8HO5SA [58, 59]. Experimentally bands are observed at 1190 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the IR spectrum and at 1185 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the Raman spectrum as this SOH bending mode. For 8HQ5SA, the C-S stretching mode is observed at 633 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the IR spectrum and the band at 633 cm<sup>-1</sup> (DFT) with PED 33% is assigned as this mode [51]. The reported values of C-S stretching modes are  $632 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (Raman), 639 cm<sup>-1</sup> (DFT) [60] and at 661 cm<sup>-1</sup> (IR), 653 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Raman), 664 cm<sup>-1</sup> (DFT) [57].

sulphonic acids, the band at 1187 cm<sup>-1</sup> is assigned to SOH bend of 8HQ5SA<br>imentally bands are observed at 1190 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the IR spectrum and at 1185 cm<br>spectrum as this SOH bending mode. For 8HQ5SA, the C-S stretching mo In poly substituted benzenes, the aromatic CH stretching modes [53] absorb weakly to moderately between 3000 and  $3120 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and in the present case, the modes at 3097 and  $3085$  cm<sup>-1</sup> (DFT) are assigned the CH stretching modes of the phenyl ring [61]. The ring stretching modes of the phenyl ring PhI are assigned at 1601, 1544, 1476, 1436, 1334 cm-1 theoretically and at 1602, 1550, 1482, 1429 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the IR spectrum and at 1603, 1547, 1472, 1324 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the Raman spectrum, experimentally [51]. All these modes have high IR intensities and Raman activities are high only for the modes at  $1544$ ,  $1476$  and  $1334$  cm<sup>-1</sup> and the PEDs are in the range 40 to 52%. For 8HQ5SA, DFT calculations give the ring breathing mode of the poly substituted phenyl ring at 1017 cm<sup>-1</sup> with a PED of 42%. The ring breathing mode for poly substituted benzene ring is reported at  $1006 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the IR spectrum and at 998 cm<sup>-1</sup> theoretically [62] and at 1003 cm<sup>-1</sup> theoretically [61]. In the present case, the bands at 1169, 1093 cm<sup>-1</sup> (IR), 1170, 1094 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Raman), 1172, 1098 cm<sup>-1</sup> (DFT) and 953, 851 cm<sup>-1</sup>  $(IR)$ , 957, 840 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Raman), 954, 845 cm<sup>-1</sup> (DFT) are assigned as the in-plane and out-ofplane CH deformations of the poly-substituted phenyl ring. According to literature [63], for tetra-substituted benzenes, a strong band is seen in  $850-840$  cm<sup>-1</sup> due to out-of-plane CH deformation and in the present case this mode appears at  $845 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The ring PhII modes are assigned at 3115, 3076, 3025 cm<sup>-1</sup> (IR), 3109, 3077 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Raman), 3107, 3078, 3044 cm<sup>-1</sup> (DFT) (CH stretching modes),  $1571 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (DFT) (C=C stretching) mode,  $1055 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (IR),  $908$ cm<sup>-1</sup> (Raman), 1052, 915 cm<sup>-1</sup> (DFT) (C-C stretching modes), 1233 cm<sup>-1</sup> (IR), 1260 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Raman), 1255, 1237 cm<sup>-1</sup> (DFT) (C-N stretching modes), 1372, 1130 cm<sup>-1</sup> (IR), 1372, 1130  $cm<sup>-1</sup>$  (Raman), 1368, 1349, 1127  $cm<sup>-1</sup>$  (DFT) (in-plane CH deformation modes) and at 972, 779 cm-1 (IR), 977, 782 cm-1 (Raman), 970, 935, 781 cm-1 (DFT) (out-of-plane CH

deformation modes) [51] and these assignments are in agreement with reported values [15,16].

#### **4.3 SERS spectrum**

ittering has found application in the tracking of drug delivery systems. SHQ<br>ober of potential adsorption sites for the possible interactions with the i<br>he lone pair of electrons in the oxygen atoms and  $\pi$ -electrons of Raman scattering efficiency can be increased by many orders of magnitude if the analyte is situated on the surface of a noble metal and this amplification of surface-enhanced Raman scattering has found application in the tracking of drug delivery systems. 8HQ5SA has a number of potential adsorption sites for the possible interactions with the metal surfaces; the lone pair of electrons in the oxygen atoms and  $\pi$ -electrons of the rings. SERS has been used to study the adsorption mechanism of molecule adsorbed onto the surface of coinage metals [64, 65] and the SERS spectrum is analyzed based of the SERS wavenumbers and relative change in the intensities of SERS and normal Raman bands [66-68]. According to surface selection rules of SERS, for a molecule adsorbed flat on a metal surface, its out-ofplane modes will be more enhanced when compared with the in-plane modes and vice versa when it is adsorbed perpendicular to the surface [69]. Also the vibrations involving atoms that are close to the metal surface will be enhanced. When the shift between the normal Raman and SERS bands are greater than  $5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , there is a flat orientation to the metal surface [69, 70].

For the ring PhI, the ring stretching modes are observed in the SERS spectrum at 1628, 1528, 1481, 1430 and 1328 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The modes 1628, 1481 and 1328 cm<sup>-1</sup> are up shifted by 25, 9 and 4 cm<sup>-1</sup> while the mode  $1528 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in SERS is down shifted by 19 cm<sup>-1</sup> from the normal Raman spectrum. Corresponding to the SERS band at 1430 cm<sup>-1</sup>, no band is observed in the normal Raman spectrum. These changes in the ring stretching modes should correspond to a tilted or perpendicular orientation according to the SERS selection rules [71, 72] and the wavenumber shift was associated with a probable charge transfer between the molecule with the metal surface as reported in literature [73].

The ring stretching vibrations of PhII are present in the SERS spectrum at 1565, 1280, 1240 and at 1055 cm<sup>-1</sup> and in the normal Raman spectrum only one mode is present at 1260 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Most of these modes possess high intensity and substantial band broadening, which indicate somewhat flat orientation on the metal surface as reported in literature [74]. The substantial shifts observed for the ring modes could also be attributed to interaction of the  $\pi$ electrons with the surface. The presence or absence of the phenyl ring CH stretching mode is a reliable probe for the perpendicular or parallel orientation, respectively, of the phenyl ring with respect to the metal surface, since CH stretching modes do not mix significant with other vibrational modes of the aromatic rings [69, 70].

In the present case, CH stretching modes are present in the SERS spectrum at 3087  $cm<sup>-1</sup>$  which is absent in the normal Raman spectrum for PhI and at 3120 cm<sup>-1</sup> for the ring PhII. The in-plane CH deformation modes of the phenyl ring PhI are present in the SERS spectrum at 1178 and 1105 cm<sup>-1</sup> while the normal Raman modes are at 1170 and 1094 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Also the out-of-plane CH deformation modes are present in the SERS spectrum at 835 cm<sup>-1</sup> for PhI ring and at 980  $cm^{-1}$  for PhII. The presence of in-plane and out-of-plane CH modes for the ring PhI in the SERS spectrum suggests a tilted orientation for PhI while the presence of out-of-plane mode of PhII suggests a flat orientation as reported in literature [69, 70]. Also the ring deformation modes are present in the SERS spectrum at  $605$ ,  $177 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for PhI and at 560, 470, 177 cm-1 for PhII rings and the presence of these modes suggest tilted orientation for the rings [74].

g and at 980 cm<sup>-1</sup> for PhII. The presence of in-plane and out-of-plane CH m<br>
g PhI in the SERS spectrum suggests a titled orientation for PhI while the pre-<br>
lane mode of PhII suggests a flat orientation as reported in l The  $SO_2$  and  $SO$  stretching modes are present in the SERS spectrum at 1212 cm<sup>-1</sup> and  $701 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and this indicates that the sulpho group is probably near to the metal surface. Also the presence of SERS bands at 701, 510, 365, 309 and 220 cm<sup>-1</sup> corresponding to  $SO<sub>2</sub>$ deformation modes support the possibility of direct interaction between the sulpho group and the metal surface. According to SERS studies, this is justifiable because the modes of groups directly interacting with the metal surface will be prominent in the SERS spectrum with a wavenumber shift [75]. The normal Raman band at  $1408 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  is the in-plane OH deformation and the corresponding SERS band is at  $1395 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and this shift suggest a tilted orientation of COH moiety which is supported by the modes at  $1280$  and  $309 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the SERS spectrum (C-O stretch and OH deformation modes) as reported in literature [76]. The presence sulpho and hydroxyl modes in the SERS spectrum suggest that the interaction between PhI is more than the interaction of PhII with the metal as reported in literature [69, 70].

#### **4.4 Nonlinear optical properties**

Nonlinear optical effect arise from the interactions of electromagnetic fields in various media to produce new fields altered in phase, frequency, amplitude or other propagation characteristics from the incident fields [77]. NLO properties like the dipole moment, polarizability, first and second order hyperpolarizabilities are calculated using B3LYP/6-311++G(d) (5D, 7F). The total molecular dipole moment of 8HQ5SA is 3.71 Debye, polarizability is  $2.291 \times 10^{-23}$  e.s.u, and the first and second order hyperpolarizabilities are 3.601  $\times$  10<sup>-30</sup> and -6.961 $\times$  10<sup>-37</sup> e.s.u. Here, the first hyperpolarizability of 8HQ5SA is 27.70 times that of the standard NLO material urea [78] and comparable with the reported values of similar derivatives [57, 79]. The larger component of second order hyperpolarizability is associated with the larger ground state polarization which leads to

strong electronic coupling between the ground and the low lying excited state. Also the NLO properties are related to the energy gap between HOMO and LUMO. The energy gap of 8HQ5SA is 3.119 eV which is lower than that of urea (6.7 eV) [78]. Therefore, the investigated molecule is suitable for nonlinear optical applications.

#### **4.5 Frontier molecular orbital analysis**

e frontier orbitals are used to determine the way through which the mole<br>
in other species and the formation of a transition state is due to an intera<br>
tem [80]. The HOMO is related to ionization potential while LUMO is r The frontier orbitals are used to determine the way through which the molecule interacts with other species and the formation of a transition state is due to an interaction between them [80]. The HOMO is related to ionization potential while LUMO is related to electron affinity [81] and the HOMO-LUMO energy gap is a stability index which determines the electron transport properties [82]. In the HOMO-LUMO plot (Fig. 5), the HOMO and LUMO are delocalized over the entire molecule. Using the frontier molecular orbital energies, the ionization potential and electron affinity can be found as:  $I = -EHOMO$ ,  $A = -ELUMO$  [77]. The different chemical descriptors, the hardness (n) and chemical potential (u) are given by the following relation  $n = (I-A)/2$  and  $\mu = -(I+A)/2$  where I and A are ionization potential and electron affinity [83]. The value of  $EHOMO = -8.425$ ,  $ELUMO =$ -5.306, energy gap = 3.119, global hardness  $\eta$  = 1.5595, chemical potential  $\mu$  = -6.8655, global electrophilicity index  $\omega = \mu^2/2\eta = 15.1122$  eV in the case of 8HQ5SA. The descriptor, molar refractivity (MR) is an important term used in quantitative structure property relationship and is given as,  $MR = 1.333πNα$ , where N is the Avogadro number and α is the polarizability of the molecular system [84]. For 8HQ5SA, the molar refractivity is 59.65 and this is responsible for the binding property of the molecular system and can be used for the cure of different diseases [85].

#### **4.6 Molecular electrostatic potential**

The molecular electrostatic potential (MEP) is related to the electronic density and is a very useful descriptor for determining sites for electrophilic and nucleophilic reactions [81]. The different values of the electrostatic potential are represented by different colors and potential increases in the order of red < orange < yellow < green < blue. In MEP maximum negative region represents the site for electrophilic attack indicated by red color while the maximum positive region represents nucleophilic attack indicated by blue color. As seen from the MEP map (Fig. S1-supporting information) of 8HQ5SA, regions of negative potential are over the electro negative oxygen atoms and the regions having the positive potential are over the hydrogen atoms of the OH groups.

#### **4.7 ALIE surface, Fukui functions and noncovalent interactions**

Calculation of the ALIE values offers determination of the molecule areas that are sensitive towards the electrophilic attacks. ALIE provides information on the amount of energy necessary to remove an electron from the investigated molecule. This quantity has been introduced by Sjoberg et al. [86, 87] as a sum of orbital energies weighted by the orbital densities according to the following equation:

$$
I(r) = \sum_{i} \frac{\rho_i(\vec{r})|\varepsilon_i|}{\rho(\vec{r})}, \quad (1)
$$

 $P_s(\overline{r})|c_s|$ , (1)<br>  $\rho(\overline{r})$ , (1)<br>
denotes electronic density of the i-th molecular orbital at the point  $\overline{r}$ ,  $\varepsilon_i$  der<br>
rgy, while  $\rho(\overline{r})$  denotes total electronic density function [88,89]. Where *l*<br>
the low where  $\rho_i(\vec{r})$  $\rho_i(\vec{r})$  denotes electronic density of the i-th molecular orbital at the point  $\vec{r}$ r ,  $\varepsilon$ <sub>*i*</sub> denotes orbital energy, while  $\rho(\vec{r})$  $\rightarrow$  $\rho(r)$  denotes total electronic density function [88,89]. Where ALIE values are the lowest, electrons are the least tightly bonded and therefore the most easily removed. Such molecule sites are prone to electrophilic attacks. In this work ALIE values are visualized by mapping of its values to the electron density surface, Fig.6. Examination of Fig.6 indicates that 8HQ5SA molecule is the most sensitive towards the electrophilic attacks in the near vicinity of nitrogen atom N15 and carbon atom C12. These molecule sites, designated by the red color in Fig.6, are characterized by ALIE values of ~217 kcal/mol. On the other side the highest ALIE values have been calculated for hydrogen atoms H17 and H22, belonging to OH groups, characterized by ALIE values of ~388 kcal/mol. At these molecule sites the electrons are the most tightly bound and pronounced interactions with water molecules could be expected there. Thanks to the inspection of electron density between the atoms of 8HQ5SA molecule two intramolecular noncovalent bonds have been determined, between N15–H17 and O19–H7, with corresponding strengths of –0.025 and – 0.012 electron/bohr<sup>3</sup>, respectively.

Determination of other possibly important reactive centers has been performed by calculations of Fukui functions and their mapping to the electron density surface. In Jaguar program the finite difference approach is used for the calculations of Fukui functions according to the following equations:

$$
f^+ = \frac{\left(\rho^{N+\delta}(r) - \rho^N(r)\right)}{\delta},
$$
  
\n
$$
f^- = \frac{\left(\rho^{N-\delta}(r) - \rho^N(r)\right)}{\delta},
$$
\n(3)

where *N* stands for the number of electrons in reference state of the molecule, while  $\delta$  stands for the fraction of electron which default value is set to be 0.01 [90]. Color coding describes how electron density changes with the addition or removal of charge. Namely, the positive

(purple) color indicates that the electron density increases in the case of Fukui  $f^+$  function, while negative (red) color indicates that electron density decreases in the case of Fukui *f* – function. Fukui functions of 8HQ5SA molecule are presented in Fig.7. Purple color in Fig.7a determines near vicinities of three hydrogen atoms as molecule sites where electron density increases after the addition of charge. These hydrogen atoms are H6, H7 and H14 and they could have electrophilic nature during the reactions where 8HQ5SA molecule accepts charge. On the other side negative color in Fig.7b indicates that electron density decreases in the near vicinity of OH group connected to sulfur atom, designating this molecule site as nucleophilic during the interactions where 8HQ5SA molecule donates charge.

#### **4.8 Natural bond orbital analysis**

The natural bond orbitals (NBO) calculations were performed using NBO 3.1 program [91] as implemented in the Gaussian09 package at the DFT/B3LYP level in order to understand various second-order interactions and the results are tabulated in tables 3 and 4. The strong interaction  $n_1C_4 \rightarrow \pi^*(C_5-N_{15})$  has the highest E(2) value 59.97 kcal/mol and a very strong interaction has been in  $n_2O_{16} \rightarrow \pi^*(C_9-C_{11})$  with an energy of 37.04 kcal/ mol. Table 4 gives the occupancy of electrons and p-character in significant NBO natural atomic hybrid orbitals.Almost100% p-character was observed in  $\pi$  bonding of C<sub>5</sub>-N<sub>15</sub>,C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>11</sub> and the lone pairs of  $n_1C_4$ ,  $n_2O_{16}$  and  $n_3O_{19}$ .

# **4.9 Reactive and degradation properties based on autoxidation and hydrolysis**

electrophilic nature during the reactions where 8HQ5SA molecule accepts ch<br>
er side negative color in Fig.7b indicates that electron density decreases in the<br>
OH group connected to sulfur atom, designating this molecule s Sensitivity of 8HQ5SA molecule towards the autoxidation mechanism has been investigated by calculations of BDE for hydrogen abstraction, which is of great importance when it comes to the investigation of degradation mechanisms of pharmaceutically important organic molecules [92-95]. Autoxidation is probable in cases when BDE for hydrogen abstraction is in the certain range, from 70 to 85 kcal/mol. This value is proposed according to the works of Wright et al. [96] and Gryn'ova et al. [97]. However, according to Gryn'ova et al. BDE values between 85 and 90 kcal/mol are questionable, but could be of importance to some extent for the autoxidation mechanism. BDE values lower than 70 kcal/mol are not suitable for autoxidation mechanism [96, 98, 99]. Fig.8 contains information about BDE values for hydrogen abstraction and BDE for the rest of the single acyclic bonds. The analysis of BDE for hydrogen abstraction in the case of 8HQ5SA molecule clearly indicates its great stability and very low sensitivity towards autoxidation mechanism. Namely, all BDE values for hydrogen abstraction are much higher than the upper border value of 90 kcal/mol, meaning that the title molecule is highly stable in

up connected to the sulfur atom or by detaching of the whole moiety contain.<br>
In The presence of two OH groups indicates that 8HQ5SA molecule could<br>
d interactions with water molecules, as indicated by the ALIE surface. I the open air and in the presence of oxygen. However, this also means that degradation via autoxidation mechanism is hard to be expected, further meaning that advanced oxidation processes might be necessary for its removal from water. On the other side the lowest BDE values for the rest of the single acyclic bonds have been calculated in the case of bonds denoted with numbers 8 and 10. This indicates that the degradation could start by detaching of OH group connected to the sulfur atom or by detaching of the whole moiety containing sulfur atom. The presence of two OH groups indicates that 8HQ5SA molecule could have pronounced interactions with water molecules, as indicated by the ALIE surface. In this regard we decided to investigate its interactions with water by calculations of radial distribution functions (RDF). RDF, g(*r*), indicates the probability of finding a particle in the distance *r* from another particle [100], and for 8HQ5SA molecule it has been established that total of eight atoms have pronounced interactions with water molecules, Fig.S2 (supporting information). Results presented in Fig.S2 indicate that three carbon atoms, C1, C5 and C11, and sulfur atom, S18, have relatively pronounced interactions with water molecules characterized with similar g(*r*) profiles. Namely, three aforementioned carbon atoms have maximal  $g(r)$  values between 1.1 and 1.2, while their peak distances are located at around 3.5 Å. Sulfur atom has maximal  $g(r)$  value of around 1.2, while its peak distance is located at around 4 Å. As expected, non-carbon atoms of 8HQ5SA molecule have much more pronounced interactions with water molecules. Oxygen atoms O16 and O21 have very similar g(*r*) profiles, with O16 having somewhat higher maximal g(*r*) value (almost 1.3), while O21 has somewhat shorter peak distance  $(\sim 2.5 \text{ Å})$ . H17 is characterized by two distinct solvation spheres with peak distances at around 2.0 and 3.3 Å. By all means the most important atom, from the aspect of interactions with water molecules, is hydrogen atom H22, which is characterized by maximal g(r) value of 2.4 and peak distance located at around 1.5 Å.

## **4.10 Molecular Docking**

The PASS (Prediction of Activity Spectra) [101] analysis of 8HQ5SA is given in the table 5 with appropriate probability values i.e. probable activity (Pa) and probable inactivity (Pi). The present investigation is limited to Monodehydroascorbate reductase (NADH) inhibitor which gave Pa (probability of activity) value of 0.974 for the docking study. The three dimensional structure of Monodehydroascorbate reductase (NADH) inhibitor were retrieved from the protein databank (PDB) with PDB ID 5CP8. NADH-FR system is important for maintaining mitochondrial energy production in tumor microenvironments and used as a novel therapeutic target in tumor [102]. Several literature survey exhibit the anti-

5 software for pre-docking processing, such as water molecules, hetero atoms<br>
from the structures, add polar hydrogen's, calculate Gasteiger charges [.<br>
atable bond for ligand, and so on. The active site of the enzyme was cancerous activity of quinoline derivatives [103,104] and the 8HQ5SA as ligand was prepared for docking by minimizing its energy at B3LYP/6-31G (6D, 7F) level of theory. Molecular docking calculations were carried out using Auto dock Vina software [105]. A molecular format conversion program, Open BabelGUI, was used to prepare ligands for docking processes. Both ligand and receptor were respectively loaded into Auto Dock Tools 1.5.6 software for pre-docking processing, such as water molecules, hetero atoms were removed from the structures, add polar hydrogen's, calculate Gasteiger charges [106], specify rotatable bond for ligand, and so on. The active site of the enzyme was defined to include residues of the active site within the grid size of  $40 \times 40 \times 40$  points with 0.375Å spacing on each axis. The optimal binding conformation was determined by LGA (Lamarckian Genetic Algorithm). Finally, the binding mode analysis performed in Discovery Studio Visualizer 4.0 software. The ligand binds at the active site of the substrate by weak non-covalent interactions and these interactions are depicted in Fig.S3 (supporting information). Amino acid Met98 form one H-bond with OH group attached to the quinoline ring. Three pi-alkyl interactions between the phenyl ring and three amino acids Leu197, Ala198 and Ala201.Carbonyl group in Leu197 and Nitrogen in Ala198 form an amide-pi stacked (hydrophobic) interaction with phenyl ring. Ala198 form a pi-alkyl interaction with the quinoline ring. The docked ligand forms a stable complex with NADH inhibitor (Fig. 9) and got a binding affinity value of -6.0 kcal/mol (Table 6). Thus 8HQ5SA can be a lead compound for developing new anti-cancerous drug.

# **5. Conclusion**

The vibrational spectroscopic analysis (FT-IR, FT-Raman and SERS) of 8 hydroxyquinoline-5-sulphonic acid are reported. The sulpho and hydroxyl modes in the SERS spectrum suggest that the interaction between PhI is more than the interaction of PhII with the metal. The sulfonyl group is tilted from the phenyl ring. Using NBO analysis the stability of 8HQ5SA arising from hyperconjugative interactions and charge delocalization have been analyzed. From the MEP plot, the regions of negative potential are over the electro negative oxygen atoms and the regions having the positive potential are over the hydrogen atoms of the OH groups. ALIE values mapped to the electron density surface indicate near vicinities of atoms N15 and C12 as the most sensitive towards the electrophilic attacks. On the other side Fukui functions also recognize atoms H6, H7 and H14 together with OH group as important reactive centers. BDE values for hydrogen abstraction indicate that 8HQ5SA molecule is not sensitive towards autoxidation mechanism, while BDE values for the rest of the single acyclic are the lowest in the case of bond connecting the OH group with sulfur

atom, indicating that degradation could start by detaching of aforementioned OH group. This is very important result since hydrogen atom H22, belonging to the aforementioned OH group, has very pronounced interactions with water molecules which suggests that hydrolysis could have important role in the degradation of title molecule. Carbonyl group in Leu197 and nitrogen in Ala198 form an amide-pi stacked (hydrophobic) interaction with phenyl ring and the Ala198 form a pi-alkyl interaction with the quinoline ring.

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if form a pi-alkyl interaction with the quinoline ring.<br>
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study was conducted within the projects supported by the Ministry of Ed Part of this work has been performed thanks to the support received from Schrödinger Inc. Part of this study was conducted within the projects supported by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of Serbia, grant numbers OI 171039 and TR 34019

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## **Figure captions**

- Fig.1 FT-IR spectrum of 8HQ5SA
- Fig.2 FT-Raman spectrum of 8HQ5SA
- Fig.3 SERS spectrum of 8HQ5SA
- Fig.4 Optimized geometry of 8HQ5SA
- Fig.5 HOMO-LUMO plots of 8HQ5SA
- Fig.6 ALIE surface of 8HQ5SA molecule
- Fig.7 Fukui functions a)  $f^+$  and b)  $f^-$  of the 8HQ5SA molecule
- Fig.8 BDEs of all single acyclic bonds of 8HQ5SA molecule
- Fig.9 Surface view of the docked ligand embedded in the catalytic site of NADH inhibitor

of the spectrum of SHQ5SA<br>
Repectrum of SHQ5SA<br>
Sepectrum of SHQ5SA<br>
Sepect



# Table1



# Table 2

Calculated scaled wavenumbers, observed IR, Raman, SERS bands and assignments of 8 hydroxyquinoline-5-sulphonic acid







<sup>a</sup> v-stretching; δ-in-plane deformation; γ-out-of-plane deformation; τ-torsion; PhI-C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>11</sub>- $C_{12}-C_8$ ; PhII-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-N<sub>15</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>; potential energy distribution (%) is given in brackets in the assignment column; IR<sub>I</sub> - IR intensity in KM/Mole; R<sub>A</sub>-Raman activity in  $\AA^4$ /AMU.

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Donor(i)	Type	ED/e	Acceptor(i)	Type	ED/e	$E(2)^a$	$E(i)$ - $E(i)$ <sup>b</sup>	$F(i,j)^c$
$C3-C4$	$\sigma$	1.96717	$C3-C8$	$\sigma^*$	0.03156	3.53	1.22	0.058
			$C4-C9$	$\sigma^*$	0.04215	2.83	1.20	0.052
			$C8-S18$	$\sigma^*$	0.19132	3.90	0.86	0.054
$C4-C9$	$\sigma$	1.97627	$C3-C4$	$\sigma^*$	0.03973	2.58	1.22	0.050
			$C5 - N15$	$\sigma^*$	0.01320	3.03	1.26	0.055
			$C9-C11$	$\sigma^*$	0.02196	2.91	1.27	0.054
$C5-C15$	$\sigma$	1.98775	$C4 - C9$	$\sigma^*$	0.04215	2.80	1.35	0.055
			$C4 - N15$	$\sigma^*$	0.02079	1.70	1.35	0.043
$C8-C18$	$\sigma$	1.96254	S18-O19	$\sigma^*$	0.16117	3.68	0.96	0.055
			S18-O20	$\sigma^*$	0.15422	3.48	0.97	0.053
			S18-O21	$\sigma^*$	0.33945	3.48	0.75	0.050
$C9-C11$	$\pi$	1.97815	C8-C12	$\pi^*$	0.33768	26.42	0.28	0.077
	۰		$C9-C11$	$\pi^*$	0.31517	1.51	0.29	0.019
S18-O19	$\sigma$	1.97893	C8-S18	$\sigma^*$	0.19132	1.12	1.10	0.033
			S18-O21	$\sigma^*$	0.33945	5.22	0.99	0.070
S18-O20	$\sigma$	1.98121	S18-O19	$\sigma^*$	0.16117	2.59	1.20	0.052
			S18-O21	$\sigma^*$	0.33945	4.33	1.00	0.064
S <sub>18</sub> -O <sub>21</sub>	$\sigma$	1.97762	S <sub>18</sub> -O <sub>19</sub>	$\sigma^*$	0.16117	3.59	1.03	0.056
			S18-020	$\sigma^*$	0.15422	3.05	1.04	0.052
			S18-021	$\sigma^*$	0.33945	2.28	0.83	0.042
LPC4	$\sigma$	1.01179	$C5-N15$	$\pi^*$	0.31815	59.97	0.13	0.095
			$C9-C11$	$\pi^*$	0.31517	57.88	0.15	0.102
LPN15	$\sigma$	1.90438	$C3-C4$	$\alpha_*$	0.03973	10.48	0.88	0.087
			$C4-C9$	$\sigma^*$	0.04215	2.24	0.86	0.040
LPO16	$\sigma$	1.97656	$C4-C9$	$\sigma^*$	0.04215	6.87	1.09	0.078
LPO16	$\pi$	1.82320	$C9-C11$	$\pi^*$	0.31517	37.04	0.34	0.104
LPO <sub>19</sub>	$\pi$	1.80959	$C8-S18$	$\alpha_*$	0.19132	14.04	0.44	0.071
			S18-O20	$\sigma^*$	0.15422	17.05	0.55	0.087

Table 3. Second-order perturbation theory analysis of Fock matrix in NBO basis corresponding to the intramolecular bonds of the title compound



<sup>a</sup>E(2) means energy of hyper-conjugative interactions (stabilization energy in kJ/mol)

MANUSCRIPT ACCEPTED <sup>b</sup>Energy difference (a.u) between donor and acceptor i and  $j$  NBO orbitals

 ${}^cF(i,j)$  is the Fock matrix elements (a.u) between i and j NBO orbitals

2



# Table 4. NBO results showing the formation of Lewis and non-Lewis orbitals

1



<sup>a</sup> ED/e is expressed in a.u.

2

# Table 5



# Table 6

The binding affinity values of different poses of the title compound predicted by AutodockVina.











Fig.4 Optimized geometry of 8HQ5SA





Fig.6 ALIE surface of 8HQ5SA molecule



Fig.7 Fukui functions a)  $f^+$  and b)  $f^-$  of the 8HQ5SA molecule

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Fig.8 BDEs of all single acyclic bonds of 8HQ5SA molecule



Fig.9 Surface view of the docked ligand embedded in the catalytic site of NADH inhibitor



# Highlights

- \* IR, Raman and SERS spectra were analyzed
- \* Most reactive sites are identified
- \* ALIE, BDE, RDF have been discussed in detail
- \* Docked ligand forms a stable complex with NADH inhibitor.

Manuscript Accepted Ligand forms a stable complex with NADH inhibitor.