

## CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR 2019 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s) Project Number

Harishankar Subramanian

**S0623** 

## **Project Title**

# Synthesis of Luteolin as the Flavonoid Backbone of Hydnocarpins: A Potential Anti-Cancer Agent

#### **Abstract**

## **Objectives**

The goal of this project was the synthesis of Luteolin (3',4',5,7, tetrahydroxy flavone), from a commercially available flavonoid.

#### **Methods**

I conducted a sequence of three reactions. Each reaction was attempted as a single pot step with stoichiometric quantities and overnight reflux using specific reagents and solvents. Post reaction, each step included extraction of the end product & removal of the solvent. We used Proton NMR (Bruker 300MHz) spectrum to confirm the purity of the product from each of the reaction steps.

#### **Results**

I was able to complete all reactions successfully. The reaction sequence, extraction, purification of product, and procedures for removal of solvents were established.

#### **Conclusions**

The main objective was to produce a repeatable scheme for the reactions. Through this project, I have learned to set-up reactions to synthesize complex molecules, understood the three reaction steps, and developed skills to purify and characterize products through NMR spectroscopy.

## **Summary Statement**

Synthesis of luteolin, the flavonoid backbone for racemic mixtures of Hydnocarpins, with potential antiproliferative properties against cancer cells.

### **Help Received**

Dr. Qiao-Hong Chen gave me the opportunity to be a part of her research group at California State University, Fresno. Mr. Pravien Rajaram guided me on the daily reaction set-ups, conduct the extractions & use the NMR equipment. My dad helped set up my board presentation.