

Pratik Kumar, PhD

Postdoctoral Associate, HHMI-Janelia Research Campus, Ashburn, VA, USA

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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2019– **Postdoc, laboratory of Dr. Luke Lavis**, HHMI-Janelia Research Campus, VA, USA
Research interests: (1) Genetically targeted multifunctional dyes for protein imaging and manipulation, (2) far-red bioorthogonal dyes for click imaging, (3) genetically targeted photoactivatable dyes for single-molecule imaging, and (4) cell-impermeant dyes for imaging & modulating cell-surface receptors

EDUCATION

2013–19 **PhD in Chemistry, laboratory of Dr. Scott Laughlin**, Stony Brook University, NY, USA
Cyclopropene-neurotransmitters and caged-cyclopropenes for bioorthogonal labeling

2008–13 **MS/BS in Chemistry, laboratory of Dr. Rituparna Roy**, IISER-Kolkata, WB, India
Conformational studies of gramicidin inspired alternating LD peptides

2009–11 **Diploma in Chemistry, laboratory of Dr. Jayanta Haldar**, JNCASR, KA, India

2020 Scientists Teaching Science, HHMI Janelia Research Campus, VA, USA

2018 Optical Microscopy and Imaging (OMIBS), Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, USA

2015–18 Science Communication, Alan Alda Center for Communicating Sciences, NY, USA

HONORS & AWARDS

Outstanding Doctoral Student, Maria Tzamarioudaki Memorial Award, Stony Brook University 2019

Outstanding Service award, Department of Chemistry, Stony Brook University 2019

New York State Graduate Student Employee Union Professional Development Award 2019

The Histochemical Society Travel Award 2018

Marine Biological Laboratory Scholarship 2018

Distinguished Travel Award, Graduate Student Organization, Stony Brook University 2018
Nominated by the Dept. of chemistry and then selected from the pool of all departmental nominations

ACS Biological Chemistry Travel Award 2017

Best poster Award, Institute of Chemical Biology & Drug Discovery, Stony Brook University 2017

SUNY Research Foundation Professional Development Award 2017

Research Access Project Award, Graduate Student Organization, Stony Brook University 2015/17/19

ACS Interdivisional Sci-Mix, ACS Biological Chemistry division, ACS-San Francisco 2017

3MT-People's Choice Award (3-minute thesis), Stony Brook University 2017

Departmental Distinguished Research Award, Stony Brook University 2016

German Research Foundation Travel Award, Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings, Germany 2013

Dept. of Science & Technology (India) Travel Award, Asian Science Camp, South Korea 2011

POCE Fellowship, JNCASR, India 2009–11

INSPIRE Fellowship, Department of Science & Technology, India 2008–13

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer | Journals: Nature Communications (2022–), Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry (2020–), ChemBioChem (2020–), Journal of Materials Chemistry (2022–). **Meetings:** European Molecular Imaging Meeting (2021), Gordon Research Seminars-Bioorganic Chemistry (2022), 70th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings (2022), American Society of Cell Biology-Cell Bio (2022)

COMPASS (Committee for Postdocs and Students) Associate, American Society for Cell Biology 2022–

Chair, Gordon Research Seminars-Bioorganic Chemistry 2022

President, Janelia Association of Research Scientists 2022–

Officer, Janelia Association of Research Scientists 2021–22

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Moderator , 70th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting Open Exchange Sessions	2021
Discussion leader , Gordon Research Seminars-Bioorganic Chemistry	2019
President , Graduate Chemical Society, SBU	Apr 2017–Apr 2019
President , Student Invited Speaker Committee, SBU	Spring 2017
Moderator/organizer , Grad. Chemical Society career panel on non-academic careers, SBU	Spring 2016
Moderator , Graduate Career Association career panel on entrepreneurship, SBU	Fall 2015
Vice-President , Graduate Career Association, SBU	Fall 2015–Spring 2016
Senator for Chemistry at Graduate Student Organization, SBU	2015–Spring 2018
Public Relations Officer , Graduate Chemical Society, SBU	Spring 2015–Apr 2017

PUBLICATIONS ([Google Scholar](#) | [ORCID](#))

1. Motokazu Uchigashima, Risa Iguchi, Kazuma Fujii, **Pratik Kumar**, Manabu Abe, Kenji Sakimura, Ryoma Bise, Luke D Lavis, Takayasu Mikuni. Quantitative, spatiotemporal imaging of endogenous proteins in mammalian brain tissue via CRISPR-Cas9-based knock-in of chemical tags. In Submission.
2. **Pratik Kumar**, Jason D. Vevea, Edwin R. Chapman & Luke D. Lavis. Multifunctional fluorophores for live-cell imaging and affinity capture of proteins. Bioarxiv: doi.org/10.1101/2022.07.02.498544. [preLights](#)
3. Brittany M. White, **Pratik Kumar**, Amanda N. Conwell, Kane Wu & Jeremy M. Baskin. Lipid expansion microscopy. Journal of the American Chemical Society, 144, 40, 18212–217, 2022.
4. **Pratik Kumar** & Luke D. Lavis. Melding synthetic molecules and genetically encoded proteins to forge new tools for neuroscience. Annual Review of Neuroscience, 45, 131–50, 2022.
5. Sambashiva Banala, Ariana Tkachuk, Ronak Patel, **Pratik Kumar**, Timothy Brown, & Luke D. Lavis. 2,7-Diaminobenzopyrylium dyes are live-cell mitochondrial stains. ACS Bio Med Chem Au, 2, 3, 307–12, 2022.
6. **Pratik Kumar**, David Shukhman, & Scott T. Laughlin. Stable cyclopropene-containing analog of the amino acid neurotransmitter glutamate. Tetrahedron Letters, 60, 1476–80, 2019.
7. **Pratik Kumar**, Omar Zainul, Frank Camarda, Ting Jiang, John Mannone, & Scott T. Laughlin. Second generation caged cyclopropenes with improved kinetics for controlling bioorthogonal reactivity. Organic Letters, 21, 3721–25, 2019.
8. Ting Jiang, **Pratik Kumar**, Wei Huang, Wei-Siang Kao & Scott T. Laughlin. Modular enzyme- and light-based activation of the cyclopropene-tetrazine ligation. ChemBioChem, 20(17), 2222–26, 2019.
9. **Pratik Kumar** & Scott T. Laughlin (Book chapter). Modular activatable bioorthogonal reagents. Methods in Enzymology, 622, 153–82, 2019.
10. **Pratik Kumar**, Ting Jiang, Omar Zainul, A. Preston, J. Farr, S. Li, Pavit Suri, & Scott T. Laughlin. Lipidated cyclopropenes via a stable 3-N spirocyclopropene scaffold. Tetrahedron Letters, 59, 3435–38, 2018.
11. **Pratik Kumar***, Ting Jiang*, Sining Li, Omar Zainul, & Scott T. Laughlin. Caged cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity. Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry, 16(22), 4081–85, 2018. [RSC Blog](#)
12. **Pratik Kumar**, Omar Zainul, & Scott T. Laughlin. Inexpensive multigram-scale synthesis of cyclic enamines and 3-N spirocyclopropyl systems. Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry, 16(4), 652–56, 2018.
13. **Pratik Kumar**, David Shukhman, & Scott T. Laughlin. A light-activatable, cyclopropene-containing analog of the amino acid neurotransmitter glutamate. Tetrahedron Letters, 57, 5750–52, 2016.
14. Jiaul Hoque, **Pratik Kumar**, Vinod K. Aswal, & Jayanta Haldar. Aggregation properties of amide bearing cleavable gemini surfactants by small angle neutron scattering and conductivity studies. Journal of Physical Chemistry B, 116(32), 9718–26, 2012.
15. Jiaul Hoque, Padma Akkapeddi, Venkateswarlu Y., Divakara SSM Uppu, **Pratik Kumar**, & Jayanta Haldar. Cleavable cationic antibacterial amphiphiles: synthesis, mechanism of action, and cytotoxicities. Langmuir, 28(33), 12225–34, 2012. [Indian News](#)

In preparation (Total = 5, Collaborative work = 3, First author = 2)

1. **Pratik Kumar**, Made Budiarta, Markus Sauer, Gerti Beliu, Kayvon Pedram & Luke D. Lavis. Far-red emitting fluorogenic tetrazine dyes for click imaging in tissues.
2. **Pratik Kumar**, Jonathan Grimm, Katie Holland, Ariana Tkachuk & Luke D. Lavis. Novel photoactivatable fluorophores for single molecule imaging.

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PATENT

1. Scott T. Laughlin, **Pratik Kumar**, Ting Jiang, Wei Huang. Compositions and methods for modular control of bioorthogonal ligation. WO2020113077, 2020.

SELECTED ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Invited

1. **Sabarmati Young Researcher Seminar Series**, Biological Engineering, IIT Gandhinagar (virtual) 2021
Multifunctional fluorescent dyes as molecular tools beyond imaging
2. **Project SEED, American Chemical Society** (virtual) 2021
Illuminating biology through fluorescent dyes
3. **SUNY-Suffolk Community College**, Department of Natural Sciences, NY, USA 2018
Activatable bioorthogonal reactions for biology

Conference

1. **Gordon Research Conference**, Bioorganic Chemistry, Flash talk, NH, USA 2022
Multifunctional fluorophores as molecular tools beyond imaging
2. **Chemical Biology and Physiology**, Oregon Health & Science University, OR, USA 2022
Multifunctional fluorophores as molecular tools beyond imaging
3. **Annual Janelia Symposium**, HHMI-Janelia Research Campus, VA, USA 2022
Multifunctional fluorophores as molecular tools beyond imaging
4. **International Conference on Nanoscopy**, Leibniz Institute of Photonic Technology (virtual) 2021
Multifunctional fluorophores as molecular tools beyond imaging
5. **Dana-Farber Cancer Institute**, Chemical Biology Symposium, Flash talk (virtual) 2021
Multifunctional fluorophores as molecular tools beyond imaging
6. **Probe Fest**, HHMI-Janelia Research Campus, Flash talk, VA, USA 2018
Modular activatable cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity
7. **New York Academy of Sciences**, Chemical Biology Symposium, NY, USA 2018
Activatable cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity

SELECTED POSTER PRESENTATIONS

1. **Gordon Research Seminars & Gordon Research Conference**, Bioorganic Chemistry, NH, USA 2022
Multifunctional fluorophores as molecular tools beyond imaging
2. **EMBO/EMBL**, Seeing is Believing: Imaging the Molecular Processes of Life, VA, USA 2021
Multifunctional fluorophores as molecular tools beyond imaging
3. **HHMI-Janelia Research Campus**, ProbeFest, VA, USA 2018
Light- and enzyme-activatable cyclopropenes
4. **Rockefeller University**, Tri-Institutional Chemical Biology Symposium, NY, USA 2018
Caged cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity
5. **Gordon Research Seminars & Gordon Research Conference**, Bioorganic Chemistry, NH, USA 2018
Caged cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity
6. **NERCBI and Yale Chemical Biology Symposium**, CT, USA 2018
Caged cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity
7. **Icahn School of Medicine–Mount Sinai & ICB&DD–Stony Brook University** symposium on Frontiers in Chemical Biology and Drug Discovery, NY, USA | **Best poster award** 2017
3*N*spirocyclopropenes provide spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity
8. **New York Academy of Sciences**, Chemical Biology Symposium, NY, USA 2017
Cyclopropene neurotransmitters for bioorthogonal imaging of neural circuits
9. **Gordon Research Seminars & Gordon Research Conference**, High-Throughput Chemistry and Chemical Biology, NH, USA 2017
Caged cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity
10. **ACS National Meeting & ACS interdivisional Sci-Mixer presentation**, CA, USA 2017
Cyclopropene neurotransmitters for bioorthogonal imaging of neural circuits

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| 11. Stony Brook University , Chemistry Research Day, NY, USA | 2015 |
| Cyclopropene analogs of neurotransmitters for illuminating neural circuits | |
| 12. Stony Brook University , Chemistry Research Day, NY, USA | 2014 |
| Fluorescent boronic acid probe as transsynaptic tracer of neural circuitry | |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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| Graduate assistant, NMR facilities, SBU | 2018, Spring 2019 |
| Trained undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral trainees on setting up and analyzing ^1H , ^{13}C , COSY, and DEPT NMR on 400/500/700 MHz NMR instruments. Helped with routine maintenance of NMR instruments. | |
| Graduate assistant, Mass spectrometry facilities, SBU | 2018, Spring 2019 |
| Trained undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral-trainees on setting up and analyzing liquid samples on ESI-mass spectrometer and solid samples on TLC-inject mass spectrometer. Performed high-resolution mass-spectroscopy of liquid samples and helped maintain the mass spectrometers. | |
| Teaching assistant, Advanced organic chemistry lab, SBU | Spring 2015 |
| Led ~4 lectures on NMR and weekly laboratory course for ~30 chemistry-majors on how to set up multistep organic reactions; monitor the progress of reactions; purify reaction intermediates; analyze GC data; acquire and analyze IR data; analyze ^1H & ^{13}C NMR data; report spectroscopic and experimental data; and follow proper lab-safety techniques. | |
| Teaching assistant, Undergraduate organic chemistry lab, SBU | Fall 2013–Spring 2014 |
| Led a weekly laboratory course for ~30 pre-med students on how to set up organic reactions; isolate and purify reaction products; analyze GC data and IR data; report experimental data; and follow proper lab-safety techniques. | |

MENTORING EXPERIENCE (TOTAL = 13)

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| 3 PhD students (rotation and 1 st year of their PhD): | |
| Wei Huang (Chemistry/Chemical Biology, co-author on two manuscripts) | Nov 2017–Dec 2018 |
| Wei-Siang Kao (Chemistry/Chemical Biology, co-author on two manuscripts) | Nov 2017– Dec 2018 |
| Ting Jiang (Chemistry/Chemical Biology, co-author on four manuscripts) | Nov 2016–Dec 2017 |
| 3 PhD rotation students: Lei Chen, Yilin Ma, Beilei Jiang | 2016, 2017 |
| 1 MS student: Sining Li (Chemistry, co-author on three manuscripts) | Jan 2016–Apr 2017 |
| 5 Undergraduate students: | |
| Nayarit Tineo (Biology, worked with Omar Zainul through SBU-INSPIRE program) | Spring 2018 |
| John Mannone (Chemistry, awarded URECA summer research fellowship) | Nov 2017–Apr 2019 |
| Frank Camarda (Pharmacology, co-author on two manuscript) | Nov 2017–Apr 2019 |
| Omar Zainul (Pharmacology, and co-author on four manuscripts) | Sep 2016–Apr 2018 |
| Awarded URECA summer research fellowship and Sigma-Xi Undergraduate Research Award | |
| David Shukhman (Biochemistry, co-author on one manuscript) | Aug 2014–Apr 2016 |
| 1 High School student: Pavit Suri (W.T. Clarke high School, co-author on one manuscript) | Summer 2017 |

OUTREACH

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| Moderator/organizer , “How to approach new collaborations” American Society for Cell Biology | 2022 |
| Project SEED Speaker , American Chemical Society | 2021 |
| Science Coach , American Chemical Society, Developed chemistry demos on dyes for high-school students | 2020 |
| Poster Judge , Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) | 2020 |
| Janelia RESET team , Biology demos and labs at a nearby diverse and low-income elementary school | 2020, 2022 |
| “Life as a scientist and career in scientific research” , Suffolk Community College, NY, USA | 2018 |
| Science Fair Judge for WAC Lighting Foundation Invitational science fair, NY | 2017, 2018, 2021 |
| Science Competition Judge for 5th Annual Nassau County science fair, NY | 2017 |
| 3MT Judge (3-minute thesis), SBU | 2017 |
| Research photo contest , Graduate Chemical Society, SBU (winner) | 2016, 2017 |
| Co-Founder, BrainChem , Graphical interface to explain chemistry and ecology tidbits to non-scientists | 2016-18 |