

# Rucha Tongaonkar

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## Educational Qualification

| Qualification                                  | Awarding body/ Institution    | Year of passing | Percentage/ ECTS                      | Class/ Grade                           |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| M. Sc.<br>(Biochemistry and Molecular Biology) | University of Bremen, Germany | 2012            | 2.0 (ECTS)<br>(equivalent to 80%–90%) | “Gut”<br>(Good)                        |
| B. Sc.<br>(Industrial Microbiology)            | University of Pune, India     | 2009            | 77.05%                                | 1 <sup>st</sup> Class with Distinction |

## Professional Experience

1. **Cactus Communications Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai**  
**Freelance Editor (Center of excellence for pharmaceutical sciences); May 2020–Present.**

**EditChecks LLC, Colorado, USA**  
**Freelance Editor; March 2022–Present.**

### Current work profile:

- Editing and proofreading various documents in Medicine and Life Sciences to improve scientific accuracy, terminology, clarity, flow, grammar, language, quality, understanding, and manuscript structure; polish scientific language; and give critical feedback.

2. **Enago (Crimson Interactive Pvt. Ltd.), Mumbai**  
**Trainee Assistant Managing Editor; April 2019–March 2020.**

### Achievements:

- **Edited** and **reviewed** various academic documents in Medicine and Life sciences including research and review articles, case reports, theses, rebuttals, cover letters, recommendation letters, book chapters, course material, presentations, posters, and scientific speeches to correct and improve scientific accuracy and clarity, flow, grammar, language, and punctuation
  - **Formatted** research articles as per the target journal guidelines to make them publication ready
  - **Wrote** cover letters for research articles
  - **Responded and resolved** queries from clients pertaining to edited files
3. **Ggenex, Pune (a Biotech start-up)**  
**Research Scientist; March 2016–January 2018.**

### Achievements:

- **Wrote research articles** & project proposals and **edited research articles** written by the Korean partner company
- **Designed** and **led** various application oriented research projects:

- Prepared novel **herbal extracts** for cosmetic use and **tested** them for **cosmetic properties** in vitro
- **Formulated, developed and tested** various **Eco-friendly homecare** and **personal care formulations** prepared using natural ingredients
- Performed **green synthesis of silver nanoparticles** using herbal extracts and studied their applications
- Responsible for **operations, maintenance** and **management** of Biochemical research lab and **communication** with research collaborators, clients and customers

#### 4. SAI Life Sciences Ltd, Pune

**Senior Research Assistant (Biology Dept.). November 2012–January 2015.**

##### Achievements:

- Received quarterly **Star performer award** for **excellent performance** at SAI life sciences Ltd.
- **Established, developed,** and **validated** various biochemical, cell based, and radioactive **assays**
- **Screened drug molecules** for their efficiency, potency, and safety
- Validated new instruments in the lab and established instrumental protocols
- Projects undertaken: 1. Effect of **Herbal extracts** on **cell viability, apoptosis, oxidative stress,** and **cytokine secretion.** 2. Screening the ability of compounds **to bind to cell surface receptors.** 3. Screening of **enzyme inhibitors.** 4. Screening of compounds **inhibiting cytokine secretion** 5. Screening of compounds (potential drugs) for side effects viz. adipose tissue proliferation, non-specific binding to receptors.

#### Research Publications

1. **Opto-Electrical Properties of Marine Derived Porphyra-334 Mycosporine-Like Amino Acid.**  
Ahn Y, Chopade P, Lee J, et al., 2018, Journal of Nanoelectronics and Optoelectronics.
2. **Green Synthesis of Silver Nanoparticles Using Panax Ginseng Root Extract for the Detection of Hg<sup>2+</sup>.**  
Tagad C, Seo HH, Tongaonkar R, et al., 2017, Sensors and Materials.
3. **Ficus religiosa L. Leaf and Aerial Root Extract Induced Antioxidant Protection in Human Keratinocytes.**  
Tongaonkar R, Seo HH, Dixit SS, et al., 2016, Materials Focus.
4. **Green Coffee Extract Protects H9C2 Cardiomyocytes from Doxorubicin Induced Apoptosis.**  
Malkapuram S, Venkataraman K, Tongaonkar R, et al., 2016, Research Journal of Medicinal Plants.

#### Certification Courses

- Completed **“Writing in the sciences”** (a course in Scientific writing) authorized by **Stanford University, USA,** in **Feb 2018** with Grade **98.4%**
- Completed **“Certificate course in German language”** from Pune University and **German Language certificate** (Course A 2.2) from **Goethe Institute, Germany**

#### Computer Skills

Windows platform, MS-office, GraphPad Prism, CorelDRAW, SigmaPlot, GraphPad InStat, SoftMax Pro (Molecular Devices)