Structural insights into the complex of oncogenic K-Ras4B^G12V and Rgl2, a
RalA/B activator

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Abstract

About a quarter of total human cancers carry mutations in Ras isoforms. Accumulating evidence

suggests that small GTPases, RalA and RalB, and their activators, Ral guanine nucleotide exchange

factors (RalGEFs), play an essential role in oncogenic Ras-induced signalling. We studied the

interaction between human K-Ras4B and the Ras association (RA) domain of Rgl2 (Rgl2^{RA}), one of

the RA-containing RalGEFs. We show that the G12V oncogenic K-Ras4B mutation increases the

affinity with Rgl2^{RA}. The crystal structure of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}: Rgl2^{RA} complex shows a 2:2

heterotetramer where the Switch I and Switch II regions of each K-Ras^{G12V} interact with both Rgl2^{RA}

molecules. This structural arrangement is highly similar to the H-Ras^{E31K}:RALGDS^{RA} crystal

structure and is distinct from the well-characterised Ras:Raf complex. Importantly, the G12V

mutation was found at the dimer interface of K-Ras4B^{G12V} with its partner. Our study reveals a

potentially distinct mode of Ras:effector complex formation by RalGEFs, and offers a possible

mechanistic explanation for how the oncogenic K-Ras4B^{G12V} hyperactivates the RalA/B pathway.

Summary Blurb

The work reports that the K-RAS4B.G12V oncogenic mutation increases the affinity with Rgl2, an

activator of RalA/B and provides a structural explanation by analysing the K-Ras4B(G12V):Rgl2

complex crystal structure where the G12V mutation resides at the interface of the complex.

Main Text

Introduction

Ras belongs to a family of small G protein that switches between two states, GDP-bound form

(Ras^{GDP}) and GTP-bound form (Ras^{GTP}), and regulates a wide range of cellular activities (Cox and

Der, 2010). Guanine nucleotide exchange factors (GEFs), typically activated by growth factor

signalling, mediate the conversion of Ras^{GDP} to Ras^{GTP}, whilst the GTP-bound status lasts only

transiently as the intrinsic GTPase activity, aided by the GTPase activating Proteins (GAPs),

hydrolyses the bound GTP into GDP (Vetter and Wittinghofer, 2001). Ras acts as a signalling hub

where the Ras^{GTP}, but not Ras^{GDP}, physically interacts with multiple Ras effectors, which then

transmit the signal to downstream molecules, including ERK, Akt and small G proteins RalA and

RalB (Simanshu et al., 2017).

There are three human *RAS* genes, *K-RAS*, *N-RAS* and *H-RAS*, and as *K-RAS* is alternatively spliced

at exon 4, the three *RAS* genes produce four Ras isoforms K-Ras4A, K-Ras4B, N-Ras and H-Ras

(Castellano and Santos, 2011). Among them, *K-RAS4B* typically represents more than half of all

RAS transcripts (Newlaczyl et al., 2017). The Catalogue Of Somatic Mutations In Cancer

(COSMIC) shows that about 25% of all cancers carry mutations in *RAS* genes, and *K-RAS* is

responsible for about 70% of these mutations (COSMIC, v.95). Hence, it is vital to obtain more

insights into how the oncogenic K-Ras signalling leads to cancers.

Extensive earlier biochemical studies revealed that oncogenic *RAS* mutations cause a reduction

of the GTP hydrolysis rate, generating an increased population of Ras^{GTP} (Bollag and McCormick,

1991; Der et al., 1986; Gibbs et al., 1984; Manne et al., 1985; McGrath et al., 1984; Scheffzek et

al., 1997). This likely leads to an overactivation of the downstream signalling pathways and

therefore is considered the major cause of the K-Ras oncogenicity. In addition, recent

biochemical, structural and molecular modelling studies indicate that oncogenic *RAS* mutations

affect the interaction kinetics with the effector molecules and may trigger a biased

overactivation of a set of effectors (Hunter et al., 2015; Mazhab-Jafari et al., 2015; Pantsar et al.,

2018; Smith and Ikura, 2014). Therefore, obtaining more insights into the Ras-effector

interaction mechanisms is essential to understanding the oncogenic-Ras mediated

tumorigenesis process.

Effector molecules that have been shown to interact with Ras all carry a domain consisting of a ubiquitin-fold structure, although the primary sequences of these domains show a limited homology (Kiel and Serrano, 2006). They are classified into three categories according to Uniprot PROSITE-ProRule Annotation based on their primary sequences; Ras-associating (RA) (PRU00166), Ras-binding domain (RBD) (PRU002262), and phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase Ras-binding domain (PI3K-RBD) (PRU00879). In this study, we follow these annotations.

Among Ras effectors, Raf kinase and PI3K, which ignite ERK and Akt signalling, respectively, have attracted much attention, especially because they were found not only to be activated by oncogenic Ras but also to be able to carry oncogenic mutations themselves (Chalhoub and Baker, 2009; Maurer et al., 2011). However, accumulating evidence suggests that the misregulation of Ral GTPases, RalA and RalB, rather than ERK and Akt signalling pathways, may act as the initial trigger of oncogenic-Ras induced tumorigenesis. For example, in the oncogenic K-ras(G12D) knock-in mouse model, although neoplastic and developmental defects were observed, hyper-activation of ERK or Akt was undetected (Tuveson et al., 2004). In humans, ERK hyper-activation is often missing in cancer cell lines and tissues with oncogenic Ras mutations, whereas RalA and RalB are essential in oncogenic-Ras induced cell proliferation, motility and tumorigenesis (Campbell et al., 2007; Lim et al., 2005; Lim et al., 2006; Luo and Sharif, 1999; Miller et al., 1997; Yip-Schneider et al., 1999; Yip-Schneider et al., 2001; Zago et al., 2018). Therefore, a biased misregulation of the Ral GTPases may be the critical feature behind Ras oncogenicity. Indeed, NMR-based effector competition assays suggested the intriguing possibility that the oncogenic Ras molecules may develop an altered effector preference leading to a biased hyperactivation of RalA (Smith and Ikura, 2014).

Activation of RalA and RalB is mediated by guanine nucleotide exchange factors (RalGEFs). There are eight RalGEFs reported for humans, and four of them, RALGDS, Rgl1, Rgl2 and Rgl3, have a Ras-association (RA) domain responsible for Ras-binding (Apken and Oeckinghaus, 2021). RALGDS was the first to be identified as a Ras effector among these RalGEFs and is by far the most studied (Neel et al., 2011). RALGDS is one of the first effector molecules that was crystallised together with an active Ras; rat RALGDS was co-crystalised with human H-Ras harbouring an E31K mutation, which helped complex formation (Huang et al., 1998). Meanwhile, a recent modelling approach, integrating proteomic data of Ras, its 56 effectors and

their interaction affinities, predicts that Rgl2 would generate the highest concentration of

Ras:effector complex among RalGEFs in 28 out of 29 healthy human tissues (Catozzi et al., 2021).

Furthermore, a critical contribution of Rgl2 in oncogenic-Ras induced tumour phenotypes has

been reported (Vigil et al., 2010). However, the Ras:Rgl2 complex interface has not been

studied.

In this report, we examined the mode of interaction between human K-Ras4B and the RA of Rgl2

(Rgl2^{RA}). We observed an affinity increase of the interaction of K-Ras4B with theRgl2^{RA} upon

introduction of G12V oncogenic mutation. Our crystal structure of K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex

shows a heterotetramer formation, highly similar to the reported H-Ras^{E31K}:RALGDS^{RA} complex,

but distinct from other Ras:effector complexes, including Ras:Raf1. Strikingly, in our structure,

the G12V oncogenic mutation is located at the dimer interface of K-Ras4B^{G12V} with its

homodimeric partner. Our findings provide an interesting possibility that K-Ras4B^{G12V}

oncogenicity might be due to its capability to form a heterotetramer with Rgl2.

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16   **Results**
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Active K-Ras4B^{G12V} has a stronger affinity to Rgl2^{RA} than K-Ras4B^{WT}

Throughout this study, we used recombinant bacteria constructs of human K-Ras4B lacking the

C-terminal hyper-variable region and the Rgl2^{RA} consisting of amino acids 643 – 740 of human

Rgl2 (Supplementary Fig. S1A). The binding of Rgl2^{RA} and K-Ras4B^{G12V} was confirmed for the

active K-Ras4B^{G12V} loaded with a non-hydrolysable GTP analogue (Guanosine-5'-[(β,γ)-

imido]triphosphate (GMPPNP)), by GST-pulldown assays (Supplementary Fig. S1B). To examine

whether the binding mode of Rgl2^{RA} differs between K-Ras4B^{WT} and K-Ras4B^{G12V}, the binding

affinities were determined by biolayer interferometry (BLI). We noticed that both K-Ras4B^{WT} and

K-Ras4B^{G12V}, purified at 4°C at all times, retained GTP as the major bound guanine nucleotide,

and we confirmed that the K-Ras4B^{WT} and K-Ras4B^{G12V} samples that were subjected to the

incubation condition of the BLI assay (23°C for 40 min) were still associated with GTP (Fig. 1A).

Therefore, we used these GTP-bound samples without loading GMPPNP so that we could

minimize possible artefacts caused by GMPPNP. The on/off kinetics between K-Ras4B and Rgl2

were fast for both wildtype and G12V mutant (Fig. 1B lower panels), and the sensorgram curves

could not be fitted to the pre-programmed curve fitting models (Data Analysis HT Software,

Sartorius). Therefore, we deduced the equilibrium dissociation constant (K_D) using steady-state

analysis (Fig. 1B upper panels). Strikingly, the affinity between Rgl2[RA] and K-Ras4B was

substantially increased when K-Ras4B carried the oncogenic mutation, G12V, where Glycine at

position 12 is replaced with Valine. The circular dichroic (CD) spectra for K-Ras4B[WT] and K-

Ras4B[G12V] samples across the increasing temperature from 20°C to 90°C also showed improved

structural stability for K-Ras4B[G12V], which might contribute to the higher affinity towards Rgl2[RA]

(Fig. 1 C-E).

A 2:2 tetramer of K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] complex in the crystal structure

We conducted crystallization trials to obtain structural insights into the K-Ras4B:Rgl2[RA] complex.

To purify the complex, a mixture of GMPPNP-loaded K-Ras4B and Rgl2[RA] was applied onto a size-

exclusion column. The major elution peak corresponded to the co-elution of K-Ras4B[G12V] and

Rgl2[RA] as a complex, and, as expected, the complex eluted earlier than K-Ras4B[G12V] or Rgl2[RA]

alone (Supplementary Fig. S1C). In contrast, there was no elution peak corresponding to the K-

Ras4B[WT]:Rgl2[RA] complex (Supplementary Fig. S1D). The inability of K-Ras4B[WT] to form a stable

complex that survives gel filtration chromatography is consistent with the relatively low affinity

between K-Ras4B[WT] and Rgl2[RA] observed by BLI (Fig. 1B).

Crystals of the K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] complex were obtained which diffracted at a resolution of

3.07Å (Table 1). The phase was solved by molecular replacement using the structure of the

human H-Ras[E31K]:rat RALGDS[RA] complex (PDB ID 1LFD) (Huang *et al.*, 1998). The space group was

assigned to P1$2_1$1 with four proteins per asymmetric unit (two molecules of K-Ras[G12V] and two

molecules of Rgl2[RA]) arranged as a tetramer (Fig. 2). The overall arrangement of K-

Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] crystal structure is similar to H-Ras[E31K]:RALGDS[RA] crystal structure (PDB ID 1LFD

(Huang *et al.*, 1998))(Supplementary Fig. S2). The complex forms a 2:2 heterotetramer where β2

(within Switch I) of K-Ras[G12V] and β2 of Rgl2[RA] generate a continuously extended β-sheet, along

with interaction at Switch II of the same K-Ras[G12V] molecule with the second Rgl2[RA] molecule

(Fig. 3 A and B and Fig. 4 A and B). In both K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] and H-Ras[E31K]:RALGDS[RA] cases, the

Ras-Ras interface is formed within the region spanning amino acids 1-90 where K-Ras4B[G12V] and

H-Ras[E31K] share 100% amino acid sequence identity except for the point mutations G12V and

E31K. The K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] heterotetramer complex is stabilized by a network of hydrogen

bonds and hydrophobic interactions (summarized in Supplementary Fig. S3A), leading to

complimentary surface charges (Supplementary Fig. S3B).

K-RASG12V:Rgl2RA interface

K-Ras4B[G12V] residues within the Switch I interact with residues in β1, β2 and α1 of Rgl2[RA]. These

interactions include a salt bridge between E37 of K-Ras4B[G12V] Switch I and R653 of Rgl2[RA] (Fig.

3A). The Switch II of the same K-Ras4B[G12V] molecule also contributes to the complex formation

by interacting with the second Rgl2[RA] through residues in β2 and α1 (Fig. 3B).

K-Ras[G12V]: K-Ras[G12V] interface

Meanwhile, two K-Ras4B[G12V] molecules have direct contact through Switch I, Switch II and α3

(Fig. 4A, and Supplementary Fig. S3A). Importantly, the V12 residue of the oncogenic G12V

mutation is in the proximity of the ring of Y32 of the neighbouring K-Ras4B[G12V], contributing to

the K-Ras4B[G12V]: K-Ras4B[G12V] interface, increasing the hydrophobic pocket.

Rgl2[RA]:Rgl2[RA] interface

The β1 of both Rgl2[RA] molecules run anti-parallel to each other, interacting through various

hydrophobic interactions and hydrogen bonds at both side-chain and backbone levels (Fig. 4B,

and Supplementary Fig. S3A).

Solution NMR analyses of the K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] complex

The K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] complex was further analyzed in solution by nuclear magnetic resonance

(NMR). First, the solution structure of free Rgl2[RA] was determined by solution NMR

(Supplementary Fig. S4A) (Table 2). As expected, the structure adopts the ββαββαβ ubiquitin-

fold structure, a common feature for the RA/RBDs (Kiel and Serrano, 2006). Overall, it is similar

to the structure of Rlf, the mouse homologue of human Rgl2 (PDB ID 1RLF)(Esser et al., 1998)

(Supplementary Fig. S4B). The solution structure of free Rgl2[RA] is also very similar to the crystal

structure of Rgl2[RA] in the K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA], indicating that the complex formation causes

relatively small structural changes, and the crystal structure likely reflects the physiological

Rgl2[RA] folding (Fig. 5A).

The K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] complex was next analyzed in solution by NMR chemical shift

perturbation. Two-dimensional (2D) [15]N–[1]H-heteronuclear single quantum coherence (HSQC)

spectra were measured for the ^{15}N-labelled Rgl2[RA] sample in the absence or presence of an

increasing amount of non-labelled K-Ras4B^{G12V} (Fig. 5B and C). Chemical shift perturbations were observed for many of the Rgl2^{RA} residues, in agreement with K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex formation in solution. Most of the Rgl2^{RA} residues at the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} and Rgl2^{RA}:Rgl2^{RA} interfaces in the crystal structure showed greater changes (either decreased or increased) in their NMR signal intensities and in chemical shift perturbation, indicating their participation in the complex formation and supporting the heterodimer interface observed in the crystal structure (Fig. 5B and C). Signals from the Rgl2^{RA} residues in β1 at the N-terminal end display the largest changes. This is consistent with our structures showing that the highly flexible N-terminal region of free Rgl2^{RA} (Supplementary Fig. S4A) becomes rigid upon complex formation through its interaction with K-Ras4B^{G12V} as observed in the crystal structure. Together, the NMR data are consistent with both the Rgl2^{RA}: Rgl2^{RA} and the Rgl2^{RA}:Kras$_{G12V}$ interfaces observed in the crystal tetrameric structure. In addition, the overall decrease in the NMR signals is compatible with the formation of a relatively large complex such as the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} heterotetramer complex (62kDa).

We next examined the NMR chemical shift perturbation of K-Ras4B^{G12V} in solution in the absence or presence of non-labelled Rgl2^{RA} (Figure 6B). When loaded with GMPPNP, the number of detectable peaks of the ^{15}N labelled K-Ras4B^{G12V} signal is substantially decreased compared to the number of signals obtained from the GDP-loaded sample (Supplementary Fig. S5) as previous studies reported (Ito et al., 1997; Menyhard et al., 2020). Consequently, unfortunately, most of the K-Ras4B^{G12V} residues at the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex interface could not be detected (Fig. 6A and B), except for K42 and K88, both of which are showing substantially decreased signal intensities upon Rgl2^{RA} addition, in agreement with their expected participation in the complex formation (Fig. 6C). Furthermore, addition of Rgl2^{RA} leads to a strong decrease of most of the [1]K-Ras4B^{G12V} signals further suggesting formation of a large complex, like the hterotetramer. Taken together, the NMR chemical shift perturbations and reduction in signal intensities are consistent with our heterotetrameric crystal structure.

Mass photometry indicates the presence of a heterotetramer of K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex

To address the question of whether K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex can exist as a heterotetramer in solution, we analyzed the complex by mass photometry, a label-free technique that has recently been adapted to measure the mass of biomolecules in solution (Young et al., 2018). Our

commercially-available instrument (see Materials and methods) can measure masses in the

range 30-5000 kDa, and is suitable to detect K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} heterotetramer (62kDa). The K-

Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex was freshly prepared by size exclusion chromatography at 4°C, and the

peak fraction that contained both proteins at 1:1 ratio was used for the measurement (Fig. 7A).

The histogram of the frequency counts for this sample showed a peak corresponding to a

biomolecular complex with a molecular weight of 68 kDa (Fig. 7B). As the expected molecular

weight of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} heterotetramer is about 62 KDa, the result indicates that at

least part of the complex population likely exists as the 2:2 heterotetramer in solution.

Discussion

We conducted interaction studies of human K-Ras4B and Rgl2^{RA} to obtain structural insights into

the oncogenic Ras-dependent activation of the RalA/B pathway. Our BLI and SEC data clearly

show that the oncogenic mutation G12V induces a significant increase in the affinity between K-

Ras4B and Rgl2^{RA} and leads to a more stable complex. Using X-ray crystallography we also found

that K-Ras4B^{G12V} and Rgl2^{RA} form a heterotetramer and that the oncogenic G12V mutation

resides at the interaction surface. NMR and mass-photometry analyses are consistent with the

formation of an heterotetramer in solution. The structural arrangement in our structure

provides an attractive explanation for the increased K-Ras4B^{G12V} - Rgl2^{RA} interaction affinity.

The K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} dimer formed through the K-Ras4B^{G12V} Switch I region displays the

common features observed in the canonical mode of Ras-effector interaction

The K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} contacts involving the K-Ras4B^{G12V} Switch I region share the common

structural feature as the canonical Ras-effector interface; the β2 in the Switch I region of Ras

and β2 of RBD/RA interact to form a parallel β -sheet (Supplementary Fig. S6). However, the K-

Ras4B^{G12V} and Rgl2^{RA} molecules at this contact are situated at a slightly different angle compared

to Kras:RBD complexes, such as K-Ras4B^{WT}:CRAF^{RBD} (PDB ID 6VJJ) (Supplementary Fig. S6). This is

consistent with the recent structural evaluation of all available RAS:RA/RBD complex structures

(Eves et al., 2022). In this respect, K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex belongs to the "RalGDS-family

cluster", involving H-Ras^{E31K}:RALGDS^{RA} (PDB:1LFD) and KRas$^{WT/G12V}$:Rgl1^{RA} (PDB: 7SCW and 7SCX)

complexes (Eves *et al.*, 2022), rather than to the "CRAF cluster", suggesting a structure-function

correlation.

The interaction mode between Ras and Rgl2/RALGDS is distinct from other Ras:RBD/RA

interactions

The key contributor of the heterotetramer formation seen in our structure of K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA},

and the previously published H-Ras^{E31K}:RALGDS^{RA} is the interaction between the Switch II region

of Ras and the second RBD/RA molecule (Fig. 3B, and Supplementary Fig. S7A). This feature is

distinct from other previously reported Ras:effector crystal structures, where the Switch II

region is either not participating in the interaction (Ras:CRAF^{RBD}, PDB ID 6VJJ(Tran et al., 2021))

or is interacting with the same RBD that interacts with the Switch I region of the same Ras

molecule (Ras:PI3Kγ^{RBD} (PDB ID 1HE8)(Pacold et al., 2000), Ras: PLCε^{RA} (PDB ID 2C5L)(Bunney et

al., 2006), Ras:RASSf5^{RA} (PDB ID 3DDC)(Stieglitz et al., 2008)), hence forming a Ras:RA/RBD

heterodimer, rather than a heterotetramer (Supplementary Fig. S7B).

One interesting case is a recently reported structural study of Rgl1, yet another RalGEF (Eves *et*

al., 2022). The primary sequences of Rgl1^{RA}, Rgl2^{RA} and RALGDS^{RA} are distinct but close to each

other when compared to CRAF^{RBD}, a representative RBD (Supplementary Fig. S8). The crystal

structures of K-Ras4B^{WT} or K-Ras4B^{G12V} in complex with Rgl1^{RA} show that Rgl1^{RA} interact with the

Switch I region of Ras in a highly similar manner as other complexes; the similarity is particularly

high when compared to K-Ra4Bs^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} (this study) and H-Ras^{E31K}:RALGDS^{RA} (PDB ID 1LFD)

(Supplementary Fig. S7B and Fig. S9 top row). In addition, Rgl1^{RA} contact the Switch II region in a

manner similar to PI3Kγ^{RBD} and PLCε^{RA} (Supplementary Fig. S7B). However, this makes Rgl1^{RA}

distinct from other RasGEFs, Rgl2^{RA} and RalGDS^{RA}, as these establish the Switch II contact using

the second RA molecule (Supplementary Fig. S7A).

The crystal structure of Rgl1 in complex with K-Ras4B^{G12V} (PDB ID 7SCX) also suggests a possible

heterotetramer formation (Eves *et al.*, 2022). However, the proposed structural arrangements

of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl1^{RA} heterotetramer is distinct from the Ras:Rgl2/RALGDS heterotetramers

(supplementary Fig. S9); in the Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl1^{RA} structure, the heterodimer is mediated by an

additional Rgl1^{RA}:Rgl1^{RA} interaction but the two K-Ras^{G12V} molecules are not in contact with each

others. Indeed, the second Rgl1^{RA} associates with the first Rgl1^{RA} through its C-terminal end,

which extends into the paired Rgl1^{RA} in a reciprocal manner, causing a "domain swap" of the β5

(Eves *et al.*, 2022)(Supplementary Fig. S9). Consequently, the second K-Ras^{G12V} in the K-

Ras^{G12V}:Rgl1^{RA} heterotetramer is away from the first K-Ras^{G12V} molecule, and the G12V mutation

is not directly involved in the molecular contacts. In agreement with this structural

arrangement, the affinity between K-Ras and Rgl1[RA] was reported unaffected by the G12V

oncogenic mutation (Eves *et al.*, 2022). This is very distinct from the heterotetramer observed in

the case of Rgl2[RA], where V12 is directly involved in the RAS:RAS interaction, in agreement with

the higher affinity of K-Ras[G12V] to Rgl2[RA] in comparison to k-Ras[WT] (Fig. 4A, Supplementary Fig. S3

and Supplementary Fig. S9).

Oligomerisation of K-Ras:effector complexes

Accumulating evidence suggests that K-Ras is capable of forming a dimer in solution even in the

absence of effectors (Andreadelis et al., 2022; Ingolfsson et al., 2022; Jang et al., 2016; Lee et al.,

2021; Lee et al., 2020; Muratcioglu et al., 2015; Ozdemir et al., 2022; Packer et al., 2021; Prakash

et al., 2017; Sarkar-Banerjee et al., 2017). The physiological importance of Ras dimerisation and

its potential to be a therapeutic target was highlighted by a G12D-specific inhibitor, BI2852,

which may cause artificial dimerisation and block the protein function (Kessler et al., 2019; Tran

et al., 2020). Furthermore, Ras forms nanoclusters in the membrane *in vivo* and *in vitro*

(Lakshman et al., 2019; Plowman et al., 2005; Prior et al., 2003; Weise et al., 2011; Zhou et al.,

2014). The modes of these Ras oligomer formations are dependent on various parameters,

including membrane lipid compositions, Ras nucleotide binding status, availability of Ras

effectors and the actin cytoskeleton and are expected to be context-dependent.

Previously it has been suggested that Ras in general can form dimers in solution but structural

information on these dimers vary and the dimerisation status may therefore be categorised into

four classes based on the α helices and β sheets at the interface as follows; (i) $\alpha 4/\alpha 5$

(Andreadelis *et al.*, 2022; Jang *et al.*, 2016; Lee *et al.*, 2021; Lee *et al.*, 2020; Packer *et al.*, 2021;

Prakash *et al.*, 2017), (ii) $\alpha 3/\alpha 4$ (Jang *et al.*, 2016; Muratcioglu *et al.*, 2015; Prakash *et al.*, 2017),

(iii) α/β (Lee *et al.*, 2021), and (iv) β/β (Jang *et al.*, 2016; Muratcioglu *et al.*, 2015)

(Supplementary Fig. S10). Notably, the K-Ras4B[G12V]:K-Ras4B[G12V] interface that we observe in the

K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] heterotetramer does not belong to any of these categories and uses the

unstructured regions of Switch I, Switch II, V12 in the P-loop and K88 (Fig. 4A, and

Supplementary Fig. S10), in a similar manner to the H-Ras[E31K]:RALGDS[RA] crystal (PDB ID 1LFD)

(Huang *et al.*, 1998). While this mode of tetramer formation could be an outcome of a crystal-

packing artefact (Vetter et al., 1999), it is worth noting that the spatial arrangement of

symmetry mates of human H-Ras[WT] crystal (PDB ID 5P21) also shows a similar Ras:Ras contact

(Pai et al., 1990) (Supplementary Fig. S11C). Therefore, this Ras:Ras contact mode may reflect

the intrinsic nature of Ras molecules, which may be stabilized by both K-Ras4B 12V and Rgl2[RA] to

form the heterotetramer.

Our NMR and mass photometry analysis support a tetramer formation in solution. However, our

SEC-MALS attempt at room temperature only detected a heterodimer formation (data not

shown), strongly indicating that the heterotetramer formation may involve a slow exchange

process, as was the case for the K-Ras[GV]:Rgl1[RA] where tetramerization was observed by SEC only

on 6-months old samples (Eves et al., 2022). Physiological settings, including the presence of the

plasma membrane and the full-length effector molecules rather than just the RBD/RA, may

stabilize higher-order complex formations.

Possible involvement of V12 in the K-Ras4B:Rgl2[RA] complex formation and oncogenicity

The K-Ras4B[G12V]:K-Ras4B[G12V] interface of the K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] tetramer complex involves the

residue V12, an oncogenic amino-acid substitution occurring in about 28% of mutated *KRAS*

cases (COSMIC). This G12V substitution substantially increases the affinity towards Rgl2[RA]

compared to the wildtype (Fig. 1B). In agreement with this observation, our attempt to

biochemically purify the K-Ras4B[WT]:Rgl2[RA] complex has been unsuccessful as K-Ras4B[WT] and

Rgl2[RA] eluted in separate fractions when subjected to size exclusion chromatography

(Supplementary Fig. S1D). In the K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] tetramer complex, the presence of V12

creates a larger hydrophobic pocket together with Y32, compared to the wildtype case of G12,

seen in the H-Ras[WT] crystal (PDB ID 5P21) or in the H-Ras[E31K]:RALGDS[RA] crystal (PDB ID 1LFD)

(Supplementary Fig. S11). To our knowledge, the K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] complex serves as the first

example where a structural explanation is provided for an oncogenic-Ras driven stabilization of

a Ras:effector complex. Interestingly, the E31K substitution, used to stabilize the complex in the

H-Ras[E31K]:RALGDS crystal structure (Huang et al., 1998) (Supplementary Fig. S11B), has been

reported in cancer samples with *HRAS* mutations (COSMIC). Therefore, the capability of Ras

mutants to form a stable complex with RalGEFs may be directly linked with Ras oncogenicity. It

is interesting to note that in the previously proposed Ras:CRAF heterotetramer complex derived

from SAXS data (Packer et al., 2021), the position of residue 12 is relatively distant from the

interacting surfaces. An interesting speculation can be that the oncogenic substitution

mutations at glycine 12 might have a greater impact on RalGEF-mediated signalling than Raf kinase-mediated signalling, as suggested by Ikura and colleagues through real-time parallel NMR analyses (Smith and Ikura, 2014). The differences in the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} crystal structure (this study) and the Ras:CRAF heterotetramer (Packer *et al.*, 2021) provide possible structural explanations for this observation.

Conclusion

To summarize, our work demonstrates an increased affinity of K-Ras4B^{G12V} oncogenic mutant with a RalGEF, Rgl2, and provides a possible structural explanation by revealing the complex interface. The information may open the way to target oncogenic-*KRAS*-induced tumorigenesis by novel strategies, including interfering molecules for the newly identified interfaces.

1 **Materials and Methods**
2
Plasmid constructs

The RA of human Rgl2 was obtained by amplifying a cDNA fragment encoding the position 643 –

740 of the human Rgl2 by PCR with a pair of primers (5'

TACTTCCAATCCATGGGGCCAGGGGCCTCTGATTGCCG3') and (5' TATCCACCTTTACTGTCA

TGTAGCAGTAGAGGACCTTCGCCGCTGC 3') using human cDNA prepared from hTERT RPE-1 cells

using GoScript Reverse Transcription System (Promega) following the manufacturer's

instruction. The amplified Rgl2^{RA} fragment was cloned into pLEICS2 vector (PROTEX, University

of Leicester), which contains a glutathione S-transferase (GST) affinity tag and a Tobacco Etch

virus (TEV) potease cleavage site at the N-terminal end of the Rgl2^{RA}, using In-Fusion HD EcoDry

enzyme (Takara Bio, #638915), following the manufacturer's instruction. A point mutation,

K686A, was introduced by site-directed mutagenesis using a pair of primers (5'

ATCAGTCGTGTCCTTAAGGCAAACAATCGTGACTCT 3') and (5'

CAGAGTCACGATTGTTTGCCTTAAGGACACGACTGAT 3') by following the QuikChange^{TM} method

(Agilent Technologies, La Jolla, CA, USA).

A cDNA fragment encoding the position 1 – 169 (C-terminal truncated) of the human wildtype K-

Ras4B isoform was amplified by PCR with a pair of primers (5' TACTTCCAATCCATG

ACTGAATATAAACTTGTGGTAGTTGGAGCTG') and (5' TATCCACCTTTACTGTCA

CTTTTCTTTATGTTTTCGAATTTCTCGAACTAATGTATAG 3') using human cDNA prepared from

hTERT RPE-1 cells as described above. The produced fragment was cloned in pLeics1 plasmid

(PROTEX, University of Leicester), which introduces a His6 tag and a TEV cleavage site at the N-

terminus. Site directed mutagenesis was conducted to introduce the oncogenic G12V mutation

using a pair of DNA oligos (5' AGTTGGAGCTGTTGGCGTAGGCAAGAGTGCC 3') and (5'

GTCAAGGCACTCTTGCCTACGCCAACAGCTCCAACTAC 3') by following the QuikChange^{TM} method

(Agilent Technologies, La Jolla, CA, USA).

Protein expression

DE3 Rosetta cells (Novagen) carrying expression plasmids were grown at 37°C in TY media until

OD600 reached about 0.6. Then protein expression was induced by adding Isopropyl β-D-1-

thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) to a final concentration of 0.5 mM and keeping the culture at 18°C

overnight in a shaking incubator. Cells were collected by centrifugation and resuspended in

either Sl1 buffer (Tris 20mM (pH 7.65), NaCl 150 mM, 5 mM imidazole) for His-tagged KRas or in

PBS-NaCl buffer (237 mM NaCl, 2.7 mM KCl, 8 mM Na_2HPO_4, and 2 mM KH_2PO_4, pH 7.4) for Rgl2

and RalGDS. The cell suspensions were then stored at -80°C.

Protein expression of stable isotope labelling K-Ras4B[G12V] and RA of Rgl2 for NMR measurement

The gene encoding human K-Ras4B[G12V] and Rgl2[RA] were constructed into the expression vector

pGHL9 and pLEICS2 over-expressed in *Escherichia coli* (*E.coli*) strain BL21 (DE3) and Rosetta,

respectively. Uniformly ^{13}C, ^{15}N-labeled protein was obtained by growing bacteria at 37 °C in M9

minimal media, containing $[^{13}C_6]$-glucose and $^{15}NH_4Cl$ (Isotec) as the sole carbon and nitrogen

source, supplemented with 20 mM $MgSO_4$, 0.1 mM $CaCl_2$, 0.4 mg/ml thiamin, 20 μM $FeCl_3$, salt

mix [4 μM $ZnSO_4$, 0.7 μM $CuSO_4$, 1 μM $MnSO_4$, 4.7 μM H_3BO_3], and 50 mg/L ampicilin. K-

Ras4B[G12V] NMR sample was prepared essentially as described previously (Ito *et al.*, 1997).

Protein expression of Rgl2[RA] was induced by adding 119mg/L IPTG at an OD 600 nm of 0.5. After

18 h of further growth, cells were harvested, and washed with a pH 7.5 lysis buffer [50 mM Tris-

HCl, 25% sucrose, and 0.01% NP-40]. Uniformly ^{15}N-labeled K-Ras4B[G12V] and Rgl2[RA] were

produced by the identical steps unless growing cells in M9 medium containing $[^{12}C_6]$-glucose and

$^{15}NH_4Cl$ (Isotec).

Purification of GST-tagged Rgl2[RA]

Bacteria cell suspensions were thawed and supplemented with Triton X-100 to a final

concentration of 0.1 % (v/v). Cells were broken by a probe sonicator and insoluble materials

were removed by centrifugation. The supernatant was mixed with glutathione (GSH) beads (GE

Healthcare, #17-0756-01) and incubated for 20 min at 4°C. The GSH beads were washed three

times with the PBS-NaCl buffer. the GST-Rgl2[RA] fusion protein was either eluted by the elution

buffer (50mM Tris-Cl (pH 8.0), 100mM NaCl, 5mM GSH) for GST pulldown experiments or the

Rgl2[RA] was separated from the GST tag through cleavage by tobacco etch virus (TEV) protease,

which was prepared as previously described (Kapust et al., 2001; Tropea et al., 2009), for

structural analysis. The obtained Rgl2[RA] or GST-Rgl2[RA] fusion proteins were concentrated using a

concentrator (10 kDa MWCO, Merck, Amicon Ultra centrifugal filters, #UFC901024) and filtrated

using a centrifugal filter unit (Milipore, Ultrafree, #UFC30GV00) before conducting size exclusion

chromatography (SEC) with a gel-filtration column (GE Healthcare, HiLoad Superdex 75)

attached to an FPLC system. SEC was carried out in a gel filtration buffer (20 mM Tris-Cl (pH

7.65), 100 mM NaCl, 5mM MgCl2, 1mM Tris (2-carboxyethyl) phosphine (TCEP)).

Purification of His-tagged K-Ras4B wildtype and oncogenic G12V mutant proteins

Bacteria cell suspensions were supplemented with Triton X-100 to a final concentration of 0.1 %

(v/v). Cells were broken by a probe sonicator and insoluble materials were removed by

centrifugation. The soluble cell lysates were applied on a Ni-sepharose excel (GE Healthcare,

#17-3712-01), packed in a column of 4 ml bed volume with Sl1 buffer buffer (20mM Tris, pH6.5,

150mM NaCl, 5 mM imidazole). The column was washed with 20 ml of SL1 Buffer, then with 20

ml of Sl3 Buffer (20mM Tris, pH6.5, 150mM NaCl, 6mM Imidazole) and finally with 15 ml of Sl4

Buffer (20mM Tris, pH6.5, 150mM NaCl, 10mM Imidazole). The His-tagged KRas protein was

eluted from the column by applying 10 ml of Elution buffer (50mM Tris, pH 7.65, 150mM NaCl,

200mM Imidazole), followed by 10 ml of 1 M imidazole. In order to remove the His6-tag at the

N-terminal end, TEV protease, prepared as previously described (Tropea *et al.*, 2009), was added

to the elution fraction to about a 2 % molar ratio of the His6-K-Ras4B preparation and incubated

overnight at 4°C. The cleaved KRas samples were further purified by SEC using a gel-filtration

column (GE Healthcare, HiLoad Superdex 75) in the gel filtration buffer (20 mM Tris-Cl (pH 7.65),

100 mM NaCl, 5mM MgCl2, 1mM Tris (2-carboxyethyl) phosphine (TCEP)). The purified KRas

(WT) and KRas(GV) concentrations were determined by absorbance at 280 nm. The extinction

coefficient (ε) for KRas (WT) and KRas(GV) was estimated to be 19685 $cm^{-1} M^{-1}$, by taking into

account that the bound GTP adds 7765 $cm^{-1} M^{-1}$ (Smith and Rittinger, 2002), and the molecular

weights (including GTP) were estimated to be 19856 and 19898, respectively. Nucleotide

exchange of the purified K-Ras4B wildtype or G12V proteins was carried out essentially as

previously described (Ito *et al.*, 1997). The proteins were diluted 10 times by the exchange

buffer (20mM Tris-Cl (pH7.5) 1mM EDTA, 1mM TECP) and denatured by the addition of EDTA to

a final concentration of 5 mM. The sample was mixed with about 10 time molar excess of

guanosine 5'-[β,γ-imido]triphosphate (GMMPPNP, SIGMA G0635) or guanosine 5' –diphosphate

(GDP, SIGMA G7127). The reaction was incubated at 37℃ for 20 minutes then put it on ice for

20 minutes. The protein was renatured by adding ice cold $MgCl_2$ to a final concentration of 20

mM.

Purification of isotope labelling K-Ras4B^{G12V}

All the procedures described below were carried out at 4 °C unless otherwise stated. All the

isotope-labelled K-Ras4B^{G12V} samples were purified by the same step. The cells dispersed in the

lysis buffer was disrupted by sonication for 30 min on ice with hen egg lysozyme (0.1 mg/mL).

The cell debris was clarified by centrifugation at 14,000 g for 1 h. The supernatant was loaded

onto a 25 mL of DEAE-Sepharose Fast Flow (Cytiva) anion exchange equilibrated with buffer A

[50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), 1 mM MgCl$_2$, 1 mM dithiothreitol (DTT), 0.1 mM APMSF (FUJIFILM

Wako)]. After washing the column with buffer A until sufficiently low of UV absorption at 280

nm, the K-Ras4B^{G12V} protein was eluted by linearly increasing the concentration of KCl from 0 to

350 mM with a flow rate of 0.5 mL/min in buffer A. The fractions containing the target protein

were concentrated to 5 mL with Amicon Ultra-15 10 kDa (Merck). The concentrated sample was

loaded onto a 320 mL of HiLoad Superdex 75 (GE Healthcare Life Science) gel filtration with a

flow rate of 0.8 mL/min using FPLC systems (AKTA pure 25, GE Healthcare Life Science). The 5

mL sample concentrated from the fractions involving the target proteins with Amicon Ultra-15

10 kDa was loaded on Resource Q (GE Healthcare Life Science) anion-exchange column

equilibrated with buffer A using the FPLC systems. After washing the column with 30 mL of

buffer A, K-Ras4B^{G12V} was eluted by an KCl, the K-Ras4B^{G12V} protein was eluted by linearly

increasing the concentration of KCl from 0 mM to 350 mM with a flow rate of 1 mL/min in buffer

A. The purification of isotope labelled Rgl2^{RA} was performed by the same step described above.

The purity of the K-Ras4B^{G12V} and Rgl2^{RA} samples in each step was confirmed by SDS-PAGE.

Protein concentrations were determined by NanoDrop 2000 (ThermoFisher) measuring UV

absorption at 280 nm. K-Ras4B^{G12V} samples for NMR measurements were concentrated and

dissolved in NMR buffer A (90% ^{1}H$_2$O/ 10% ^{2}H$_2$O containing 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), 100 mM

NaCl, 5 mM MgCl$_2$, 1 mM β-mercaptoethanol). Rgl2^{RA} samples for NMR meassruments were NMR

buffer B (90% ^{1}H$_2$O/ 10% ^{2}H$_2$O containing 1 mM Na$_2$HPO$_4$-NaH$_2$PO$_4$ (pH 7.4), 150 mM NaCl).

K-Ras4B-Rgl2^{RA} binding measurement using BLI

Octet Red96 (Sartorius) was used for Biolayer interferometry assays of KRas4B (G12V or WT)

and Rgl2^{RA} interactions. Anti-GST biosensors (Sartorius #18-5096) were used to immobilise GST-

Rgl2^{RA} (provided as a 13 μM solution in the binding reservoir well, the concentration was

determined by absorbance at 280 nm using the following values; the extinction coefficient (ε)

48820 cm-^{1} M $^{-1}$, and the molecular weight 37495.18), and the baseline was stabilised in BLI

buffer (20mM Tris pH7.65, 0.5mM NaCl, 5mM MgCl, 1mM TCEP) for 200sec. As a negative

control, GST only (provided as a 13 µM solution in the binding reservoir well) was used. The

association of KRas4B was measured for 300sec in 6 serial dilutions concentrations. For KRas

(WT) the concentrations used ranged from 625 nm - 10 µM and for KRas4B (G12V) the

concentrations ranged from 200 nM – 6.4 µM. The dissociation steps were measured in fresh BLI

buffer for 300sec. For each assay a biosensor immobilised with GST only and a sample well with

only buffer instead of KRas4B (WT/G12V) was set up for double referencing. The experiments

were conducted at 23°C. The resulting data were processed using Data Analysis HT Software

(ver. 12.0.2.59)(FORTE BIO) and reference biosensor and reference wells were subtracted from

sample wells (double reference). Because of the fast on- and off-rates, full kinetic analysis using

a global 1:1 model resulted in low quality fitting. Therefore, steady state curves were used to

determine the K_D values.

Analysis of bound nucleotide

The nucleotide-binding status of K-Ras4B^{WT} and K-Ras4B^{G12V} were examined by denaturating the

proteins and detecting the released nucleotides (Smith and Rittinger, 2002). About 2 nmoles of

K-Ras4B molecules were adjusted to the volume of 200 µl with AKTA buffer. Add 12.5 µl of 10%

perchloric acid to denature the protein. Add 8.75 µl of 4M CH_3COONa, pH 4.0, to neutralise the

sample and centrifuge it to precipitate the denatured protein. The supernatant was analysed by

High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) using an ion-exchange column (Partisil 10 SAX

column, Whatman) equilibrated with 10 mM NH_4H2PO_4 (buffer A). The column was run with the

following gradient condition with 0.6 M NH_4H2PO_4 (buffer B) at a flow rate of 0.8 ml/min. Step1:

100% buffer A (0% buffer B) for 11 min, Step2: a gradient increase to 40% buffer B over 6 min,

Step3: a gradient increase to 50% buffer B over 23 min, Step4: a gradient increase to 100 %

buffer B over 1 min, Step 5: 100 % buffer B for 19 min, Step 6: a gradient decrease to 0% buffer

B (100 % buffer A) over 1 min, and Step 7: 100% Buffer A for 14 min. The nucleotides were

detected by 254 nm absorption. As a reference control, 1 µl of 10 mM GTP or GDP was diluted

to 200 µl AKTA buffer and was processed in the same manner as protein samples.

Crystallography

The purified and GMPPNP-loaded KRas4B (G12V) and Rgl2^{RA} were mixed in gel filtration buffer

and the complex was purified on SEC using a gel-filtration column (GE Healthcare, HiLoad

Superdex 75). The peak fractions containing both proteins in the 1:1 ratio were collected and

concentrated to set up crystallization screenings. Crystals of KRas4B (G12V) and Rgl2[RA] were

obtained using sitting-drop vapour diffusion at room temperature, with 100nl of protein

(11.6mg/ml) against 100nl of crystallisation buffer (0.2M sodium/potassium phosphate ph 7.5,

0.1M HEPES pH 7.5, 22.5% v/v PEG smear Medium (Molecular Dimensions MD2-100-259), 10%

v/v glycerol. The crystals were frozen in liquid nitrogen with 20% glycerol as cryoprotectant.

Data were collected at Diamond beamline I04. AIMLESS (Evans and Murshudov, 2013) was used

for data reduction before obtaining phaser solution using the HRas-RALGDS[RA] complex structure

(PDB ID 1LFD) as search model with PhaserMR (McCoy et al., 2007). The structure was built

using multiple rounds of refinements using PDBredo, REFMAC, PHENIX and COOT (Emsley et al.,

2010; Joosten et al., 2014; Murshudov et al., 2011; Torices and Munoz-Pajares, 2015). The

coordinates of the complex have been deposited to the Protein Data Bank (PDB) under access

code 8B69.

Circular dichroism (CD) spectroscopy

K-Ras4B(WT) and (G12V) proteins at a concentration of 20 µM were prepared in the CD buffer

(50 mM phosphate (pH 7.6), 1.5 mM Tris (pH 7.6), 5mM MgSO4, 7.5 mM NaCl, 0.375 mM

MgCl2), placed in a quartz cuvette of 0.1 cm path length and CD spectra were recorded at

wavelengths ranging from 195 to 250 nm using a Chirascan[TM]-plus CD spectrometer (Applied

Photophysics) at 20 °C. The melting curves of these proteins were examined at 220 nm at

temperatures ranging from 20°C to 90°C. Measurements were conducted at 1 °C increment.

NMR spectroscopy

K-Ras4B[G12V] NMR sample was prepared essentially as described previously (Ito *et al.*, 1997). The

bacteria expression plasmid for H-Ras was modified to encode K-Ras4B[G12V] by site-directed

mutagenesis and used to produce K-Ras4B[G12V]. Loading of a GTP analogue, GMPPNP (Jena

Bioscience) was conducted essentially as previously described (Ito *et al.*, 1997). Rgl2[RA] sample

was prepared as described above. All NMR samples were measured in 20 mM Tris-Cl (pH 7.65),

100 mM NaCl, 5mM MgCl$_2$, and 0.1% β-mercaptoethanol at 303 K. All spectra were analysed

with the CcpNmr Analysis 2.5.1 software. Backbone chemical shifts of K-Ras4B[G12V] and Rgl2 have

been deposited to the BioMagResBank with accession ID 34754 and Protein Data Bank with

accession ID 8AU4, respectively.

All NMR experiments were performed at 25°C probe temperature in a triple-resonance

cryoprobe fitted with a z-axis pulsed field gradient coil, using Bruker AVANCE-III HD 600 MHz

spectrometers. All spectra were processed with the Azara software package (Boucher). For the

3D data, the two-dimensional maximum entropy method (2D MEM) or Quantitative Maximum

Entropy (QME) (Hamatsu et al., 2013) were applied to obtain resolution enhancement for the

indirect dimensions. All NMR spectra were visualized and analyzed using the CcpNmr Analysis

2.5.0 software (Vranken et al., 2005). All of the 3D triple-resonance experiments used for the

assignments of K-Ras4B and Rgl2[RA] were performed on $^{13}C/^{15}N$ samples in NMR buffer A and B,

respectively. The backbone $^{1}H^{N}$, $^{13}C'$, and ^{15}N for K-Ras4B and Rgl2[RA], and side-chain $^{13}C^{\alpha}$ and $^{13}C^{\beta}$

resonance assignments for Rgl2[RA] were achieved by analyzing six types of 3D triple-resonance

experiments, HNCO, HN(CA)CO, HNCA, HN(CO)CA, CBCANNH, and CBCA(CO)NNH. 3D

HBHA(CBCACO)NH, H(CCCO)NH, (H)CC(CO)NH, HCCH-COSY, and HCCH-TOCSY experiments on

the $^{13}C/^{15}N$ -labeled Rgl2[RA] were performed for side-chain ^{1}H and ^{13}C resonance assignments. A

15 ms ^{13}C isotropic mixing time was employed for the (H)CC(CO)NH, H(CCCO)NH and HCCH-

TOCSY experiments. For the collection of NOE-derived distance restraints of Rgl2[RA], 3D ^{15}N-

separated and 3D ^{13}C-separated NOESY-HSQC spectra were measured on the $^{13}C/^{15}N$ -labeled

Rgl2[RA]. A 100 ms NOE mixing period was employed for the 3D NOESY experiments. All 2D and 3D

NMR data were recorded using the States-TPPI protocol for quadrature detection in indirectly

observed dimensions. Water flip-back ^{1}H pulses and the WATERGATE pulse sequence were used

for solvent suppression in the experiments performed on ^{15}N-labeled, and $^{13}C/^{15}N$-labeled

samples, whereas presaturation and gradient-spoil pulses were used for ^{13}C-labeled samples.

A series of 2D ^{1}H-^{15}N HSQC spectra were measured for titration experiments of ^{15}N-labelled K-

Ras4B[G12V] with in the presence of non-labelled Rgl2[RA]. The experiments were performed in the

NMR buffer at 25 °C and the peptide concentration was increased stepwise (for the ^{15}N-K-

Ras4B[G12V] / Rgl2[RA], its molar ratio of 1:0.25, 1:0.5, 1:0.75, 1:1, 1:1.5, and 1:2 were used, while for

the ^{15}N-Rgl2[RA] / K-Ras4B[G12V], its molar ratio of 1:0.25, 1:0.5, 1:1, 1:1.5, 1:2, and 1:3 were used).

The mean chemical shift difference $\Delta\delta_{ave}$ for each amino acid was calculated as $[(\Delta\delta^{1}H^{N})^{2} +$

$(\Delta\delta^{15}N)^{2}]^{1/2}$ where $\Delta\delta^{1}H^{N}$ and $\Delta\delta^{15}N$ are the chemical shift differences (Hz) between K-Ras4B[G12V]

or Rgl2[RA] on their own and the proteins in the presence of the other side.

NMR structure calculation

Intra-residual and long-range NOEs were automatically assigned by the program CYANA with the

use of automated NOE assignment and torsion angle dynamics (Güntert and Buchner, 2015).

The peak position tolerance was set to 0.03 ppm for the 1H dimension and to 0.3 ppm for the

13C and 15N dimensions. Hydrogen-bond and dihedral angle restraints were not used. CYANA

calculations were started from 100 conformers with random torsion angle values, simulated

annealing with 50,000 torsion angle dynamics steps was applied. The 20 conformers with the

lowest final target-function values of CYANA were selected and optimised with OPALp 2.1

[22,23] using the AMBER force field [24,25]

Mass photometry measurement

Freshly purified KRas4B (G12V) and Rgl2[RA] were mixed in AKTA buffer, concentrated to about

500 µl using a concentrator (Merck, Amicon Ultra centrifugal filters, #UFC901024), and loaded to

a gel-filtration column (GE Healthcare, HiLoad Superdex 75). The peak fractions containing both

proteins in the 1:1 ratio were collected and the concentration was estimated by OD_{280} and the

predicted extinction coefficient of 24155 $M^{-1}cm^{-1}$. The sample was diluted to 40 nM in gel

filtration buffer and a 20 µL aliquot was subjected to mass photometry immediately after the

dilution (OneMP, Refeyn). The measurement was done in conventional microscope cover glass

(Marienfeld, nº 1.5H) cleaned by rinsing with deionized water ($\times$5) and isopropanol ($\times$5)

followed by drying under a N_2 flow, using a silicon gasket (Grace Bio-labs) in order to confine the

sample. Adsorption of individual molecules of complex was detected across an imaging area of

10.8 µm by 2.9 µm.

Video recordings from interferometric scattering microscopy for a duration of 60s were

obtained and the single events corresponding to surface adsorption of the complex were

identified using AcquireMP software (Refeyn). Data analysis was performed using DiscoverMP

software (Refeyn) and OriginPro 2021 (OriginLab).

Graphical representation of protein structures

Protein structure images were generated using Pymol (The PyMOL Molecular Graphics System,

Version 1.2r3pre, Schrödinger, LLC). Electrostatic surface charge potential images were

produced using Pymol vacuum electrostatics function. Amino acid residues in the interaction

surfaces of protein complexes in a PDB format were predicted using LIGPLOT (Wallace et al., 1995).

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1   **Figures and Tables**
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Figure 1. K-Ras4B^{G12V} is structurally more stable and has a stronger affinity towards Rgl2^{RA}

than K-Ras4B^{WT}.

(A and C) K-Ras4B^{WT} and K-Ras4B^{G12V} samples used for biolayer Interferometry (BLI) and Circular

Dichroism (CD) were confirmed to be fully loaded with GTP. The nucleotide binding status of K-

Ras4B^{WT} and K-Ras4B^{G12V} were examined by denaturing the proteins and detecting the

released nucleotides by anion exchange chromatography. Samples of pure GDP or GTP were

used as references. (B) Analyses of binding kinetics of GST-Rgl2^{RA} and K-Ras4B^{WT} or K-Ras4B^{G12V}.

BLI was used to measure the steady state binding of K-Ras4B (analyte) to immobilized GST-

Rgl2^{RA} (ligand). GST-Rgl2^{RA} was immobilised on the bio-sensors, and varying concentrations of

free K-Ras4B^{WT} (left panels) and K-Ras4B^{G12V} (right panels) were provided and the interactions

were measured at 23°C. The kinetics diagrams (lower panels, association at t=0(s), dissociation

at t=300(s)) revealed a fast on/off binding. Therefore, steady state curves (upper panels) were

used to estimate the K$_D$ values; about 6.1 μM for K-Ras4B^{WT}:Rgl2^{RA} and 1.4 μM for K-

Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA}, respectively. (D) CD spectra of K-Ras4B^{WT} and K-Ras4B^{G12V} (20 μM) at 20°C. (E)

CD signal intensity at 220 nm as a function of temperature from 20°C to 90°C.

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Figure 2. Crystal structure of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} 2:2 heterotetramer

Cartoon representation of the structure of the heterotetramer complex of K-Ras4B^{G12V} and

Rgl2^{RA} with top view and side view; the two K-Ras4B^{G12V} molecules are shown in dark and pale

cyan and the two molecules of Rgl2^{RA} in pink and violet. Switch-I and Switch-II regions of K-

Ras4B^{G12V} are shown in green and yellow, respectively, and the α-helix and β-sheets are

numbered for each chain. The Mg^{2+} is shown as a grey sphere. The structure shows that each K-

Ras4B^{G12V} molecule interacts with two Rgl2^{RA} molecules (referred to as I and II) at Switch-I and

Switch-II individually.

A Switch I interaction

B Switch II interaction

Figure 3. The interacting interface of K-Ras4B^{G12V} and Rgl2^{RA} of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} 2:2

heterotetramer

The interacting interface of K-Ras4B^{G12V} and Rgl2^{RA}, highlighting the residues involved in

hydrogen and hydrophobic interactions between β1, β2 and α1 of Rgl2^{RA1} (violet sticks) and K-

Ras4B^{G12V} Switch-I (green sticks, enlarged in the green box) or Switch-II (yellow sticks, enlarged

in the yellow box). An orange dashed line shows a salt bridge formed between E37 of K-

Ras4B^{G12V} and R653 of Rgl2^{RA}.

(A) Upper panel: Blow-up images of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} interface involving Switch-I. Lower

panel: a schematic representation of the intermolecular contacts where hydrogen bonds (green

dashed lines), a salt bridge (orange dashed line) and hydrophobic contacts (spiked arches) were

predicted by LIGPLOT (Wallace *et al.*, 1995) (lower panel). Numbers indicate atomic distances in

Å. (B) A blow-up image of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} interface involving Switch II (left panel) and its

LIGPLOT representation (right panel).

A   K-Ras4B^G12V:K-Ras4B^G12V interaction

B   Rgl2^RA:Rgl2^RA interaction

Figure 4. The interacting interface of K-Ras4B^G12V: K-Ras4B^G12V and Rgl2^RA: Rgl2^RA of the K-

Ras4B^G12V:Rgl2^RA 2:2 heterotetramer

(A) The interface of K-Ras4B^G12V: K-Ras4B^G12V, highlighting the residues involved in hydrogen and

hydrophobic interactions between two K-Ras4B^G12V molecules. The interface comprises Switch-I,

Switch-II and α3 of the two K-Ras4B^G12V molecules. The oncogenic mutation, V12, is annotated in

1   red letters. A schematic representation of the intermolecular contacts predicted by LIGPLOT is

2   presented in the right panel. (B) The interacting interface of Rgl2^{RA}: Rgl2^{RA}, highlighting the

3   residues involved in hydrogen and hydrophobic interactions between two Rgl2^{RA} molecules,

4   shaded in pink and violet. The interaction occurs at the N-terminal between the two anti-parallel

5   β1. A LIGPLOT diagram is shown below.

Figure 5. NMR analysis of K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex formation in solution

(A) Comparison between the Rgl2^{RA} structures identified in solution NMR (shown in magenta) and in crystal complex with K-Ras4B^{G12V} (shown in cyan). (B)-(D) ^1H-^{15}N HSQC titration analysis of ^{15}N-labelled Rgl2^{RA} upon addition of non-labelled K-Ras4B^{G12V} supports the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA}

tetramer formation. (B) Overlays of 2D ^{1}H-^{15}N HSQC NMR spectra from multipoint titrations of

^{15}N-labelled Rgl2^{RA} with non-labelled K-Ras4B^{G12V}. Rgl2^{RA}:K-Ras4B^{G12V} molar ratios of the titration

samples are colour-coded as follows; 1:0 - black, 1:0.25 - blue, 1:0.25 – cyan, 1:0.5 – green, 1:1 –

yellow, 1:2 – orange and 1:3 – red. (C) The NMR signal intensity changes (upper panel) and the

chemical shift perturbation (lower panel) of backbone ^{1}H^N and ^{15}N nuclei of Rgl2^{RA} with non-

labelled K-Ras4B^{G12V}, presented in (B), are summarised as column diagrams as a function of

Rgl2^{RA} amino acid sequence. Proline and unassigned Rgl2^{RA} residues are shaded in grey. Rgl2^{RA}

residues involved in the Rgl2^{RA}:Rgl2^{RA} interface of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} crystal structure are

highlighted in pink on the amino acid sequence, and residues involved in the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA}

interface are highlighted in blue. Rgl2^{RA} residue position numbers according to the UniProt are

indicated at the bottom of the diagram. (Upper panel) The signal intensities of Rgl2^{RA} residues in

the presence of three times molar excess of K-Ras4B^{G12V} were divided by the signal intensities in

the absence of K-Ras4B^{G12V} and plotted as a bar-chart graph. Red-dotted lines are drawn at the

fold-change values of 0.5 and 1.5 to highlight the residues that show substantial increase or

decrease of the signals upon addition of K-Ras4B^{G12V}. (Lower panel) The chemical shift

perturbation of backbone ^{1}H^N and ^{15}N nuclei of Rgl2^{RA} with non-labelled K-Ras4B^{G12V}. The mean

shift difference $\Delta\delta_{ave}$ was calculated as $[(\Delta\delta^1H^N)^2 + (\Delta\delta^{15}N/10)^2]^{1/2}$ where $\Delta\delta^1H^N$ and $\Delta\delta^{15}N$ are

the chemical shift differences between Rgl2^{RA} on its own and in the presence of non-labelled K-

Ras4B^{G12V}. The bar graphs are colour-coded according to the Rgl2^{RA}- K-Ras4B^{G12V} concentration

ratio.

Figure 6. K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex formation in solution

^{1}H-^{15}N-HSQC titration analysis of ^{15}N-labelled K-Ras4B^{G12V} upon addition of non-labelled Rgl2^{RA}

supports the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} tetramer formation. (A) and (B) The 2D ^{1}H-^{15}N-HSQC NMR

spectra of K-Ras4B^{G12V}. ^{15}N-labelled K-Ras4B^{G12V} was titrated with non-labelled Rgl2^{RA}. (A) The 2D

^{1}H-^{15}N-HSQC spectra of K-Ras4B^{G12V}: Rgl2^{RA} complex mixed with the molar ratio of 1:0 (black, left

panel) and 1:2 (red, right panel) are shown. Many signals from ^{15}K-Ras4B^{G12V} residues

disappeared upon the addition of Rgl2^{RA}. (B) Superimposed 2D ^{1}H-^{15}N-HSQC NMR spectra of ^{15}N-

labelled K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} titration experiments. The titration samples are colour-coded as

follows; 1:0-black, 1:0.25 - blue, 1:0. 5 – cyan, 1:0.75 –green, 1:1 – yellow, 1:1.5 – orange and 1:2

– red. (C) Fold changes of the signal intensities of ^{15}N-labelled K-Ras4B^{G12V} upon addition of non-

labelled Rgl2^{RA}. The signal intensities of K-Ras4B^{G12V} residues in the presence of two times molar

excess of Rgl2^{RA} were divided by the signal intensities in the absence of Rgl2^{RA}, and the obtained

values were plotted as a column graph. Undetectable residues are shaded in grey. The residue

T2 was also shaded grey, as the chemical shift after the addition of Rgl2^{RA} overlapped with other

signals. A red-dotted line is drawn at the fold-change values of 0.5 to indicate that the most

residues show substantial decrease of the signals upon addition of Rgl2^{RA}. K-Ras4B^{G12V} residues

in the K-Ras4B^{G12V}: K-Ras4B^{G12V} interface of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} crystal structure is highlighted

in orange, and residues in the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} interface of the crystal structure is highlighted

in blue. K-Ras4B^{G12V} residue positions according to the UniProt are indicated at the bottom of

the diagram.

Figure 7. K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex can form a heterotetramer in solution

Mass photometry analysis of KRas4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex in solution. (A) K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA}

complex was purified using size exclusion chromatography. The fractions were analysed by 15%

SDS-PAGE gel (upper panel) according to the elution profile (lower panel). Fraction 5 was chosen

and measured using mass photometry (OneMP, Refeyn). (B) Cartoon representing the different

complexes configurations possibilities indicating that only heterodimers (~31kDa) and

heterotetramers (~62kDa) can be detected the system. Histogram of the frequency counts

against of the purified KRas4B^{GV}:Rgl2^{RA} complex with fitting for Gaussian distribution (red). The

duration of the video analysed was 60s and it shows that the population identified has an

average mass of ~68kDa, which is in good agreement with the expected MW of the

heterotetramer (61.7kDa).

2 **Figure S1. Rgl2 Ras binding domain interacts with active K-Ras4B^{G12V}.**

(A) A schematic diagram of domains organization of human Rgl2 as defined in the UniProt

database (Uniprot number: O15211). A domain spanning amino acid residues 648-735 is

annotated as "Ras-associating" by PROSITE annotation rule PRU00166. In this work, we

generically call this domain Rgl2 Ras Binding Domain (Rgl2^{RA}). (B) Rgl2^{RA} interacts with active K-

Ras4B^{G12V}. Bacteria recombinant Rgl2^{RA} fragment spanning the amino acid residues 643-740 of

Rgl2 was fused with GST and the fusion protein was fixed on glutathione beads. Recombinant K-

Ras4B^{G12V} 1-169, loaded with either GDP or non-hydrolisable GTP analogue, GMPPNP, was

applied on the beads to examine the protein-protein interaction. GST-Rgl2^{RA} interacted only

with the GMPPNP-loaded K-Ras4B^{G12V}. (C) K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex was purified using size

exclusion chromatography. The fractions were analyzed by SDS-PAGE gels (lower panel)

according to the elution profile (upper panel). Fractions indicated by the green double-arrow

line were used for crystallization trials. (D) K-Ras4B^{WT} and Rgl2^{RA} preparations were mixed and

applied to size exclusion chromatography. The elution profile (upper panel) shows little complex

formation. Peak fractions were analyzed by 15% SDS-PAGE gel (lower panel).

```
Human Rgl2   SDCRIIRVQMELGEDGSVYKSILVTSQDKAPSVISRVLKKNNRDSAVASEYELVQLLPGERELTIPASANVFYAMDGASH-DFLLRQRRRS 736
Rat RALGDS   -DCCIIRVSLDV-DNGNMYKSILVTSQDKAPTYIRKAMDKHNLDEDEPEDVELLQIISEDHKLKIPENANVFYAMNSAANYDFILKKR--- 864
             ** ****.::: ::*.:**************:** :.:.*:* *.  ..:***:*::. : :*.** .*******:.*:: **:*::*
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Figure S2. K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex is highly similar to H-Ras^{E31K}:RALGDS^{RA} complex

(A) The structures of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex and the H-Ras^{E31K}:RALGDS^{RA} complex (PDB: 1LFD) were superimposed by aligning the RA chains. (B) and (C) Superimposition of each

corresponding chain of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}: Rgl2^{RA} complex and H-Ras^{E31K}:RALGDS^{RA} complex

individually shows that each chain is similar to its respective counterpart structure. (B) K-

Ras4B^{G12V} and H-Ras^{E31K} chains are in cyan and grey. (C) Rgl2^{RA} and RALGDS^{RA} are in purple and

light pink. Amino acid sequence similarities of human Rgl2^{RA} and rat RALGDS^{RA} are shown below

the RA cartoon representations, and the conserved amino acids in Rgl2^{RA} and RALGDS^{RA} are

shaded in light green and dark green, respectively. The structural similarity between Rgl2^{RA} and

RALGDS^{RA} was seen beyond the regions composed of the conserved amino acids. The RALGDS^{RA}

sequence is derived from PDB 1LFD, which is rat RALGDS^{RA}, and the numbering was done

according to Uniprot Q03386. Root-mean-square deviation of atomic positions (RMSD) values

were generated using Pymol.

A

B

Figure S3. Schematic representation of the intermolecular contacts observed in the X-ray

structure

(A) The summary of the diagrams presented in Fig. 3. The residues in K-Ras4B[G12V] Switch-I region

are shown in green, in the Switch-II region are shown in yellow background and those for Rgl2[RA]

molecules 1 and 2 are shown in pink. V12 oncogenic mutation is in red. Hydrogen bonds, salt

bridges and hydrophobic interactions were predicted by LIGPLOT and represented by green

dashed lines, solid orange lines and blue dotted lines, respectively. (B) The electrostatic surface

charge shows that the negatively charged Switch-I and Switch-II regions of KRas4B^{GV} interact

with the positively charged surface of Rgl2^{RA}-1 and Rgl2^{RA}-2. Surface charge potential was

computed using the Pymol vacuum electrostatics function, and the negatively charged and

positively charged areas are shown in red and blue, respectively.

Human Rgl2 (This study)	MGPGASDCRIIRVQMELGEDGSVYKSILVTSQDKAPSVISRVLKKNNRDSAVASEYELVQLLPGERELTIPASANVFYAMDGASHDFLLRQRRRSSTAT
Mouse Rlf1 (1RLF)	---GSSDCRIIRVQMELGEDGSVYKSILVTSQDKAPSVISRVLKKNNRDSAVASEFELVQLLPGDRELTIPHSANVFYAMDGASHDFLLRQRR------
	*:***:*******:****** ********************

Figure S4. K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex formation in solution

(A) Rgl2^{RA} solution structure determined by NMR. The 2D ^{1}H-^{15}N-HSQC spectrum of the assigned residues of the Rgl2^{RA} is shown (left). The Rgl2^{RA} retains the ββαββαβ ubiquitin-fold structure (right). 20 Rgl2 NMR structures are superimposed. (B) Comparison between the human Rgl2^{RA} and mouse Rlf^{RA} (PDB 1RLF) solution structures. Rgl2^{RA} is presented in magenta, and 20 NMR structures are superimposed. Rlf^{RA} is in cyan, and 10 NMR structures are superimposed. The primary structures of the two constructs are listed below.

2 **Figure S5. Backbone resonance assignment of GDP-bound and GMPPNP-bound K-Ras4B[G12V]**

3 The 2D ^{1}H-^{15}N-HSQC spectra of GDP-Bound and GMPPNP-bound K-Ras4B[G12V]. Cross peaks are

4 labelled with their corresponding backbone assignments. Residues which could not be assigned

5 are shaded in grey in the primary sequence shown at the bottom.

K-Ras4B^G12V : Rgl2^RA   Overlay   K-Ras4B^WT : CRAF^RBD (6VJJ)

Figure S6. Comparison between K-Ras4B^G12V:Rgl2^RA Switch I contact and K-Ras^wt:CRAF^RBD

complex

K-Ras4B^G12V:Rgl2^RA complex formed through K-Ras4B Switch I region was compared with one of

the representative Ras:RBD complexes, K-Ras4B^WT:CRAF^RBD complex (PDB: 6VJJ). Both structures

show β2 helices of K-Ras4B and RA/RBD run parallel to create the interface of the complex.

Meanwhile, regarding the spatial arrangements of the α1 of Ras and α1 of RA/RBD, the axes of

K-Ras4B^G12V α1 and Rgl2^RA α1 cross at a wider angle than the axes of K-Ras4B^WT α1 and CRAF^RBD

α1 do. This feature is shared among Ras:RalGDS-family complexes (Eves *et al.*, 2022).

Figure S7. K-Ras4B^G12V:Rgl2^RA and H-Ras^E31K:RALGDS^RA complexes exhibit unique features among other Ras:effector complexes.

The K-Ras4B^G12V:Rgl2^RA complex was compared to representative Ras:effector complexes. The spectrum colour feature illustrates the orientation and ubiquitin super-fold status for one of the RA/RBD(s). When two RA/RBDs interact with one Ras molecule, the second RA/RBD is coloured pink (Rgl2^RA) or blue (RALGDS^RA). The K-Ras4B^G12V in the Rgl2^RA complex is in cyan, and other Ras

molecules from previously published structures are in grey. The interacting residues involved in

Ras Switch-II and RA/RBDs are depicted with magenta sticks and are labelled. (A) The two

Ras:RalGEF complexes (K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] complex and H-Ras[E31K]:RALGDS[RA] complex PDB: 1LFD)

show similar structural features, including the orientation of the RAs, the Switch-I contact and

the mode of usage of Switch-II. Two RAs (RA-I in the spectrum colour and RA-II in either pink or

in blue) interact separately with a single Ras molecule at Switch-I and Switch-II regions. (B)

Examples of Ras:effector complex crystal structures. K-Ras4B[WT]:CRAF[RBD] complex (PDB: 6VJJ)

shows that although Raf1[RBD] has similar orientations of the ubiquitin fold structure to Rgl2[RA]-1, it

does not utilise Ras Switch-II in complex formation. PI3Kγ[RBD] (PDB:1HE8) and PLCε[RBD] (PDB:2C5L)

complexed with Ras utilise Switch-II region differently to Ras:RalGEF complexes despite a similar

orientation of the ubiquitin fold structure of RA/RBDs. A single RBD interacts at both Switch-I

and Switch-II regions of one Ras molecule. H-Ras[D30E/E31K]:RASSF5[RA] complex (3DDC) shows yet

another unique interaction where the additional α-helix at the N-terminal of the RA/RBD

interacts with the Switch-II region of the Ras molecule, instead of the RA/RBD region itself. Rgl1

is one of the RalGEFs, as Rgl2 and RALGDS are. However, unlike Rgl2 or RALGDS, K-

Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl1[RA] complex (7SCX) and K-Ras4B[WT]:Rgl1[RA] complex (7SCW) show one Rgl1[RA] to

interact with both Switch-I and Switch-II of one Ras molecule.

Figure S8. Rgl2^{RA} primary structure is highly similar to RalGEF^{RA} domains

Multiple sequence alignment of Ras binding domain (RBD) of human CRAF (residues 56-131) and

Ras Association (RA) domains of human RalGEFs, RALGDS (residues 798-885), Rgl1 (residues 648-

735) and Rgl2 (residues 648-735), as defined by UniProt. The alignment, as well as the Clustal

Omega guide tree (shown in a green-framed box)(Sievers et al., 2011), reveals that sequences

are relatively divergent between CRAF^{RBD} and RalGEF family RA domains, although all RBD/RA

domains share the common ubiquitin fold ββαββαβ structure. The RalGEF family RA domains

share a high degree of sequence homology.

2 **Supplementary Figure S9. Heterotetramer formation in crystal structures of K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA}**

3 **and H-Ras^{E31K}:RALGDS^{RA} complexes are distinct from the one in the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl1^{RA}**

4 **complex.**

5 Crystal structures of K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} (this study), H-Ras^{E31K}:RALGDS^{RA} (PDB: 1LFD) and K-

6 Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl1^{RA} (PDB: 7SCX) are compared. All the Ras:RA heterodimers, formed through the

Ras Switch I region, show a highly similar structural arrangement (the top row). However, the

way the second RA molecule interacts with the Ras:RA heterodimer in the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} is

shared only with the H-Ras^{E31K}:RALGDS^{RA} complex (the second row). Consequently, the structural

arrangements of the heterotetramers of K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} and the H-Ras^{E31K}:RALGDS^{RA} crystal

structures are distinct from the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl1^{RA} heterotetramer (third row). RA domains of

these structures also clearly show that Rgl2^{RA} and RALGDS^{RA} are structurally different from

Rgl1RA, which interacts with the second Rgl1RA through the C-terminal end (two bottom rows).

The C-termini of the first RAs are shown in green.

Figure S10. Various Ras:Ras interfaces proposed by experimental and computational

prediction studies.

The top panel shows the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:K-Ras4B^{G12V} interface of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA}

heterotetramer complex (this study). The K-Ras4B^{G12V}:K-Ras4B^{G12V} contacts (shaded in purple)

are located in loop regions of Switch-I, Switch-II and α3. The K-Ras4B^{G12V}:K-Ras4B^{G12V} interface is

distinct from previously proposed dimerization interfaces, which can be classified into four

categories based on the relevant structural elements; α5-α4, α4-α3, α-β and β-β. Example

images for each category are shown. Single Ras molecules at the Ras:Ras interface are presented

with the interacting residues highlighted in purple, and the involved α-helices and β-sheets are

annotated. PDB IDs of the image templates are indicated next to each image. In the last

example, the dimer formation was mediated by the β-β contact, aided by a small molecule

inhibitor BI2852 (shown in purple). The Mg^{2+} is depicted as a dark-grey sphere, and the bound

nucleotide is shown as a ball-and-stick model.

Figure S11. The non-canonical Ras:Ras contact seen in three crystal structures, K-Ras4B[G12V]:Rgl2[RA] complex (this study), H-Ras[E31K]:RALGDS[RA] complex (PDB ID 1LFD) and H-Ras[WT]:H-Ras[WT] crystal structure (PDB ID 5P21)

Neighboring Ras molecules are shown to reveal comparable spatial arrangements. The side view

(top panel), top view (middle panel) and the blow-up images of the area Y32 of RAS (bottom

panel) are shown. Switch I and Switch II regions are indicated in green and yellow. (A) K-

Ras4B^{G12V}:K-Ras4B^{G12V} in the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex (this study). The two Rgl2^{RA} domains are

shown as a ribbon in light magenta. (B) H-Ras^{E31K}:H-Ras^{E31K} in the H-Ras^{E31K}:RALGDS^{RA} complex

(PDB ID 1LFD). The two RALGDS^{RA} domains are shown as a ribbon in light pink. (C) H-Ras^{WT}:H-

Ras^{WT} in the H-Ras^{WT} crystal (PDB ID 5P21). Spatial molecular arrangements around Y32 are

similar in all the cases, but the oncogenic V12 provides a larger hydrophobic pocket, which may

stabilise the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:K-Ras4B^{G12V} interface of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} heterotetramer. (A and

C) E31 of K-Ras4B^{G12V}/ H-Ras^{WT} interact with K-Ras4B^{G12V}/ H-Ras^{WT} K88. In (A), E31 of K-Ras4B^{G12V}

also interacts with Rgl2^{RA} K685. (B) The hydrophobic pocket created by Y32 is not reinforced by

G12, but K31 of H-Ras^{E31K} interacts with rat RALGDS^{RA} D815, N818 and D820 (the numbering was

done according to Uniprot Q03386), facilitating the complex formation.

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Table 1. Data collection and refinement statistics for human K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2^{RA} complex.

Statistics for the highest-resolution shell are shown in parentheses.

Wavelength	0.9795
Resolution range	28.68 - 3.071 (3.18 - 3.071)
Space group	P 32 2 1
Unit cell	77.843 77.843 163.728 90 90 120
Total reflections	106507 (7598)
Unique reflections	11107 (949)
Multiplicity	9.6 (8.0)
Completeness (%)	98.22 (86.51)
Mean I/sigma(I)	11.15 (1.64)
Wilson B-factor	95.59
R-merge	0.1313 (0.6732)
R-meas	0.1389 (0.7159)
R-pim	0.04474 (0.2379)
CC1/2	0.998 (0.957)
CC*	1 (0.989)
Reflections used in refinement	11065 (936)
Reflections used for R-free	582 (41)
R-work	0.2367 (0.3229)
R-free	0.3204 (0.3572)
CC(work)	0.943 (0.897)
CC(free)	0.851 (0.486)
Number of non-hydrogen atoms	4116
macromolecules	4050
ligands	66
solvent	0
Protein residues	514
RMS(bonds)	0.007
RMS(angles)	1.40
Ramachandran favored (%)	95.22
Ramachandran allowed (%)	3.98
Ramachandran outliers (%)	0.80
Rotamer outliers (%)	0.89
Clashscore	14.47
Average B-factor	113.50
macromolecules	113.74
ligands	98.55

4
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Table 2. NMR structure statistics for Rgl2[a]

Quantity	
Assigned ^1H/^{13}C/^{15}N chemical shifts	305/256/56
NOE distance restraints[b]	866/281/777
Max. distance restraint violation (Å)	0.13 ± 0.01
Deviations from idealised geometry:	
Bond lengths (Å)	0.0138 ± 0.0001
Bond angles (º)	1.81 ± 0.03
AMBER energy (kcal/mol)	–3624.25 ± 78.09
AMBER vdW energy (kcal/mol)	–279.71 ± 12.49
Ramachandran plot statistics[c] (%)	89.5/10.5/0.1/0
Backbone RMSD (Å)[d]	0.42 ± 0.05
All heavy atom RMSD (Å)[d]	0.84 ± 0.06
Backbone RMSD to the reference (Å)[e]	0.91
All heavy atom RMSD to the reference (Å)[e]	1.68

[a]Where applicable, the average value and the standard deviation over the 20 energy-refined conformers obtained by the program OPALp 2.1 in the presence of the experimental restraints. CYANA calculations were started from 100 conformers with random torsion angle values, simulated annealing with 10,000 torsion angle dynamics steps was applied.

[b]Short/medium/long-range distance restraints derived from NOESY spectra.

[c]Percentage of residues in the most favoured/additionally allowed/generously allowed/disallowed regions of the Ramachandran plot according the program PROCHECK.

[d]RMSD to the mean structure for residues 649-657, and 665–732.

[e]RMSD between the closest structure to the reference among the ensemble conformations and the reference structure (the crystal structure of the K-Ras4B^{G12V}:Rgl2 complex).