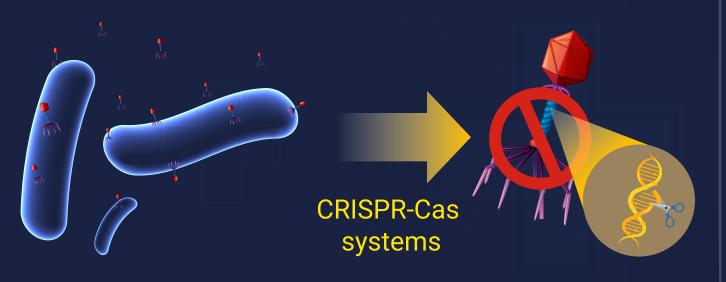
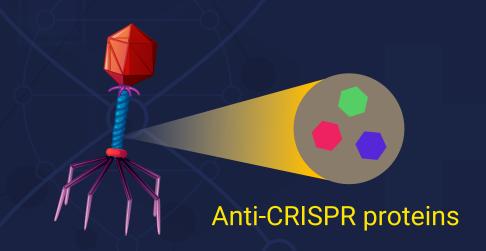
Anti-CRISPR Proteins: Insight into the Rapidly Evolving Defensive Strategy in Bacteriophages

CRISPR-Cas systems are an adaptive immune strategy in bacteria to combat viruses that invade them In response, viruses have developed a potent protective strategy by producing anti-CRISPR proteins





Understanding anti-CRISPR proteins further can have important implications in CRISPR-Cas-mediated genome editing

2013 Anti-CRISPR proteins were first discovered

Strategies for probing for new proteins



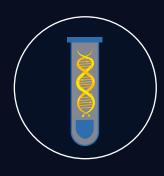
Guilt-by-association bioinformatics

Finding similarities with anti-CRISPR-associated sequences like *aca1* and *aca2*



Self-targeting spacers in bacteria

Identifying bacterial defense against self-targeting sequences



Cell-free transcription-translation functional screen

Building a fully functional CRISPR-Cas system *in vitro*



Phage-first approach

Identifying anti-CRISPR genes in bacteriophages via cloning and expression

Functional mechanisms



Blocking DNA binding



Preventing DNA cleavage

Gaining insight into anti-CRISPR proteins can pave the way for biotechnological tools such as genome editing regulators

Meet the Anti-CRISPRs: Widespread Protein Inhibitors

of CRISPR-Cas Systems

Hwang et al. (2019) | DOI: 10.1089/crispr.2018.0052

