

MOLECULAR  
TOOLS TO EDIT THE  
GENOME



# APPLICATION OF ZFN TECHNOLOGY

## Gene editing in human stem cells using zinc finger nucleases and integrase-defective lentiviral vector delivery

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nature  
biotechnology

## Targeted gene inactivation in zebrafish using engineered zinc-finger nucleases

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## Knockout Rats via Embryo Microinjection of Zinc-Finger Nucleases

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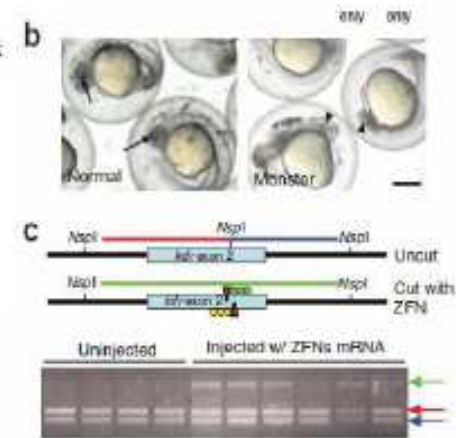
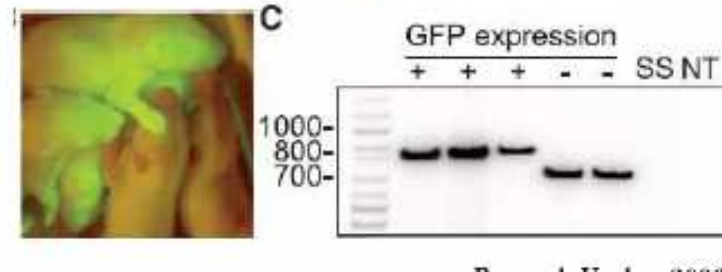


Table 1 Genomic sequences targeted with ZFNs

| Organism/cells      | Gene name     | Reference                    |
|---------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Human T cells       | CCR5          | Perez et al. <sup>8</sup>    |
| CHO cells           | DHFR          | Sentaghi et al. <sup>9</sup> |
| Various human cells | <i>h-ZNF1</i> | Lombardo et al. <sup>4</sup> |
| HEK293 cells        | <i>VEGF-A</i> | Mueder et al. <sup>6</sup>   |
| HEK293 cells        | <i>HoxB13</i> | Mueder et al. <sup>6</sup>   |
| HEK293 cells        | <i>C7orf</i>  | Mueder et al. <sup>6</sup>   |
| Tobacco             | <i>SsRNA</i>  | Mueder et al. <sup>6</sup>   |
| Zebrafish           | <i>kit</i>    | Meng et al. <sup>7</sup>     |
| Zebrafish           | <i>golden</i> | Dizon et al. <sup>10</sup>   |
| Zebrafish           | <i>ml</i>     | Dizon et al. <sup>10</sup>   |
| Drosophila          | <i>rs</i>     | Beumer et al. <sup>11</sup>  |
| Drosophila          | <i>y</i>      | Beumer et al. <sup>11</sup>  |
| Drosophila          | <i>tan</i>    | Beumer et al. <sup>11</sup>  |

Science



**Table 1 Potential applications of zinc finger nucleases**

| Experimental uses  | Drug development  |
|--|---|
| Create knockout genes (cell lines, primary cells, transgenic animals)                                | Create humanized cell lines   |
| Create point mutations or small deletions in permanent or primary cell lines                         | Create cell lines for drug target validation                        |
| Improve efficiency of gene targeting in ES cells   | Create cell lines for high-throughput screening for novel compounds |
| Create targeted transgenics with insertions into precise genomic locations                           |   |
| Genome manipulation in model organisms currently without gene targeting mechanism (worms, zebrafish) |   |

#### Therapeutics



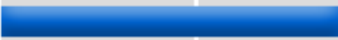


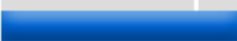


Correction of genes in monogenic diseases (e.g., Huntington disease)

Inserting genes into precise (safe and permissive) locations for correcting complex mutations (hemophilia A) and introducing RNAi, for example

Altering alleles; for example, the CCR5 gene to create resistance to HIV.

Designer immunotherapeutics

Modification of stem cells

| Program  | Lead Indication             | Research   | Pre-clinical | Phase 1 | Phase 2 | Phase 3 |  |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--------------|---------|---------|---------|--|
| <b>SB-728</b>  | HIV / AIDS                  |  |              |         |         |         |  |
|  <b>Shire</b> | Hemophilia                  |  |              |         |         |         |  |
|  <b>Shire</b> | Huntington's Disease        |  |              |         |         |         |  |
| <b>Multiple</b>  | Hemoglobinopathies          |  |              |         |         |         |  |
| <b>Multiple</b>  | Lysosomal Storage Disorders |  |              |         |         |         |  |
| <b>Multiple</b>  | Other Monogenic Diseases    |  |              |         |         |         |  |

<http://www.sangamo.com/pipeline/index.html>

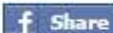
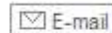


28.03.2011

# Terapia per la DMD

Nuove prospettive alla correzione di mutazioni genetiche all'origine della Distrofia Muscolare Duchenne (DMD)

di Matteo Bovolenta | Ferrara 05/06/1980 / bvlmtt@unife.it PhD in Medical Genetic Università di Ferrara



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**TR35** PROGETTO  
**GIOVANI INNOVATORI**  
**INNOVATORE DELL'ANNO**  
**2011**  
**Matteo Bovolenta**



La Distrofia Muscolare Duchenne (DMD) è la patologia muscolare più comune nell'infanzia, caratterizzata da riduzione della massa muscolare, stanchezza, miocardiopatia, crescita ritardata. DMD è causata da mutazioni genetiche, che a tutt'oggi non è stato possibile correggere in modo sicuro ed efficace. Una tecnologia particolarmente promettente è basata sulla ricombinazione omologa HR (Homologous Recombination) che è nota come gene targeting, ma che fino a oggi non è stato possibile applicare in un contesto terapeutico.

Una tecnologia recente, messa a punto in questo progetto, ha cambiato queste aspettative. Fondendo i multiple engineered zinc-finger DNA-binding domains con un non-specific nuclease domain, vengono generate le cosiddette nucleasi

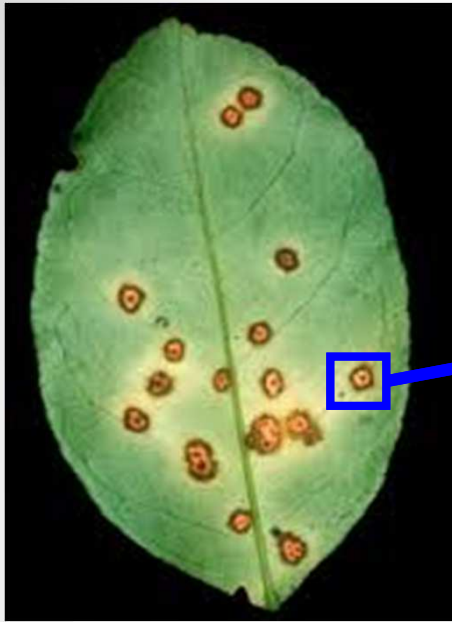
ZFNs. Queste possono essere progettate in modo tale da introdurre un DNB (Double Strand Break) nella



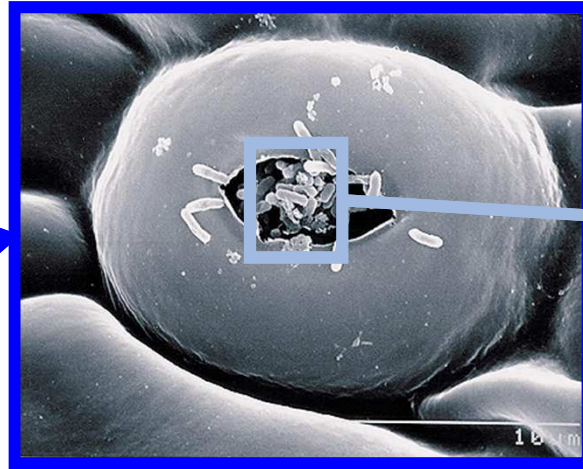
TRANSCRIPTIONAL  
ACTIVATOR-LIKE  
EFFECTORS  
(TALEs)



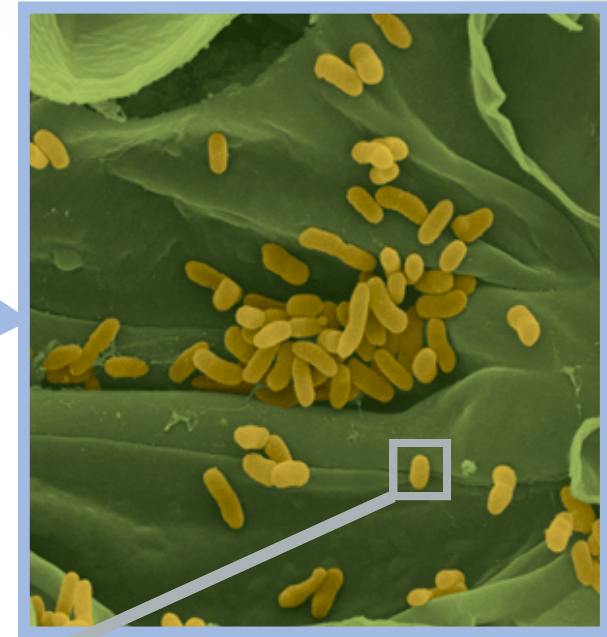
# Origine



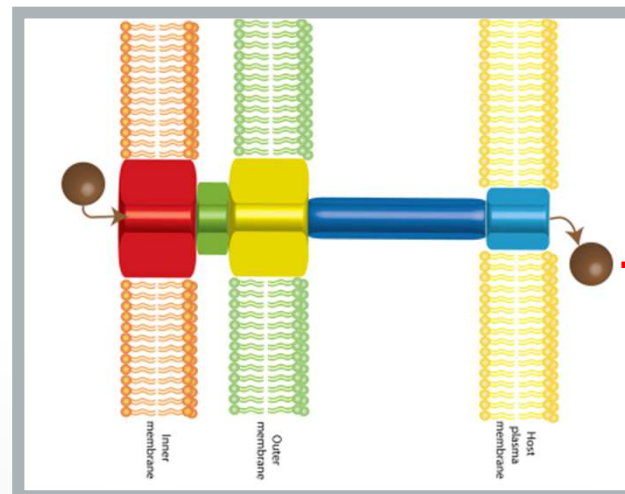
Infezione



Stoma



Xanthomonas  
(Gram -)

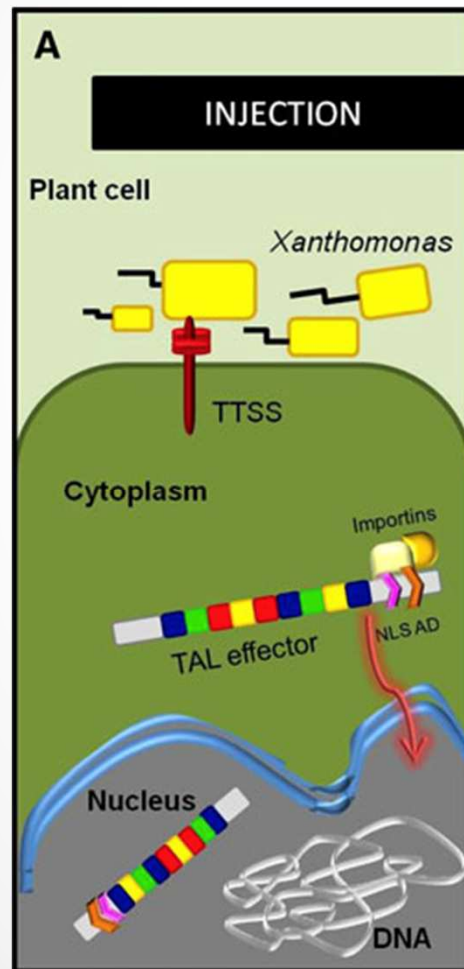


**TALE**

Sistema di secrezione di tipo III

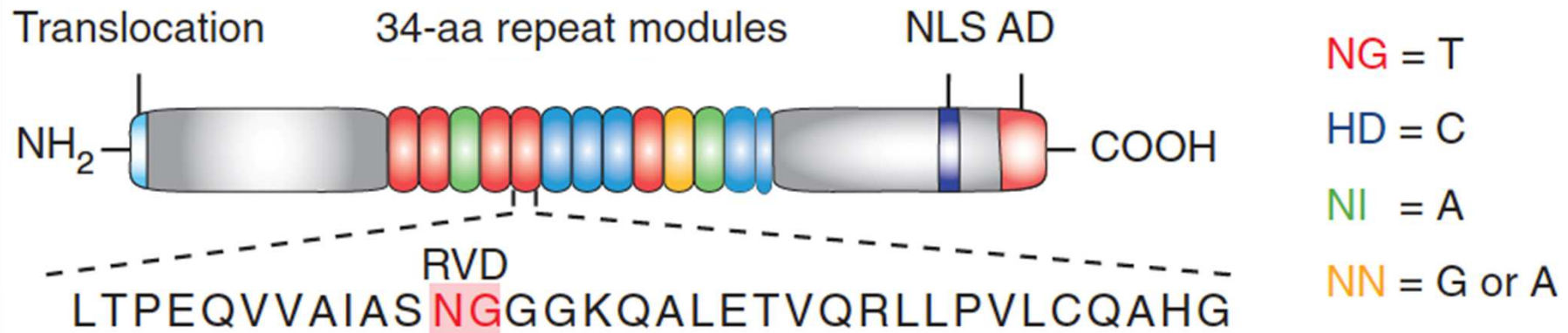
# Funzione

**TALE:** Transcription **A**ctivator-**L**ike **E**ffector, TALE possono legare e regolare in modo specifico alcuni geni nelle piante durante la patogenesi.





# TALE: Struttura Proteica

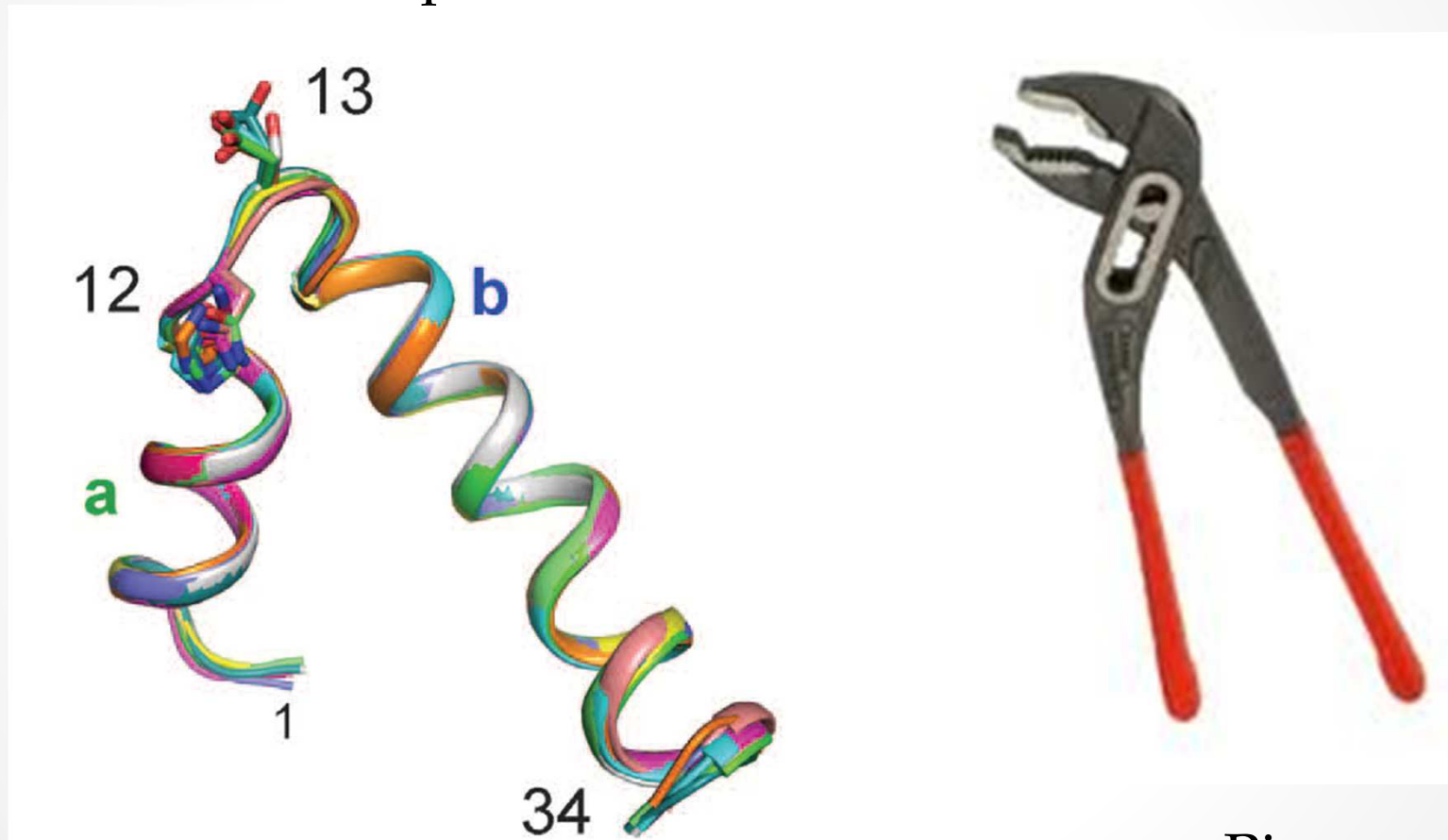


## Caratteristiche Principali:

- Regione Amminoternale: dominio di traslocazione
- Regione centrale composta da tandem repeat di 34 aa (monomeri)
- RVD (repeat variable diresidues): in ogni monomero gli aa nelle posizioni 12 e 13 mediano il riconoscimento di uno specifico nucleotide
- Regione carbossiterminale: NLS (nuclear localization signal) + dominio effettore

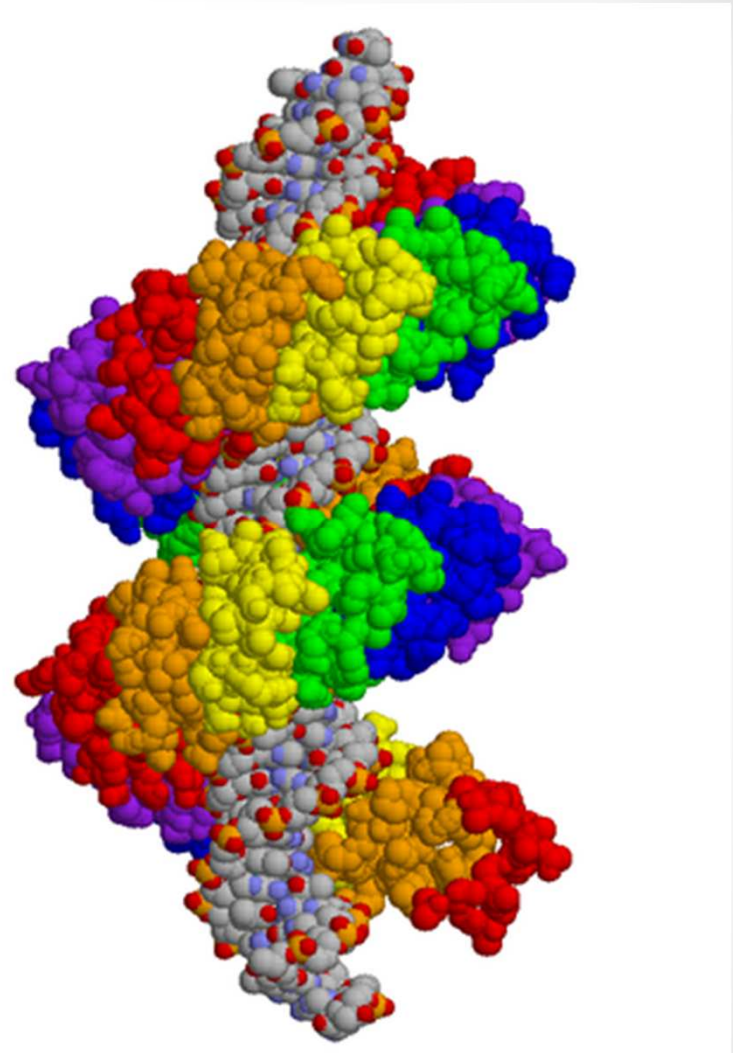
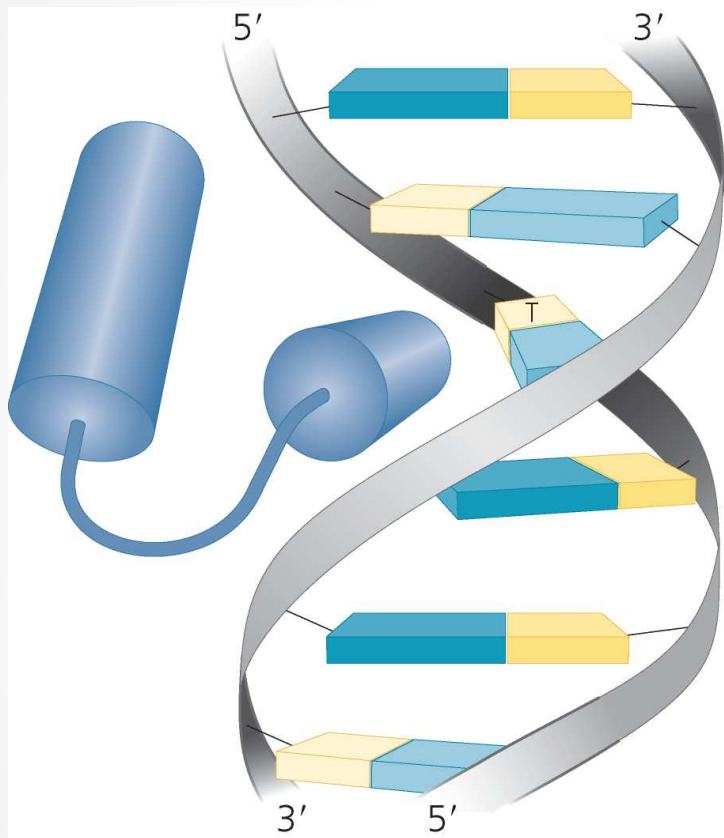
# Struttura Proteica

## Helix-loop-helix

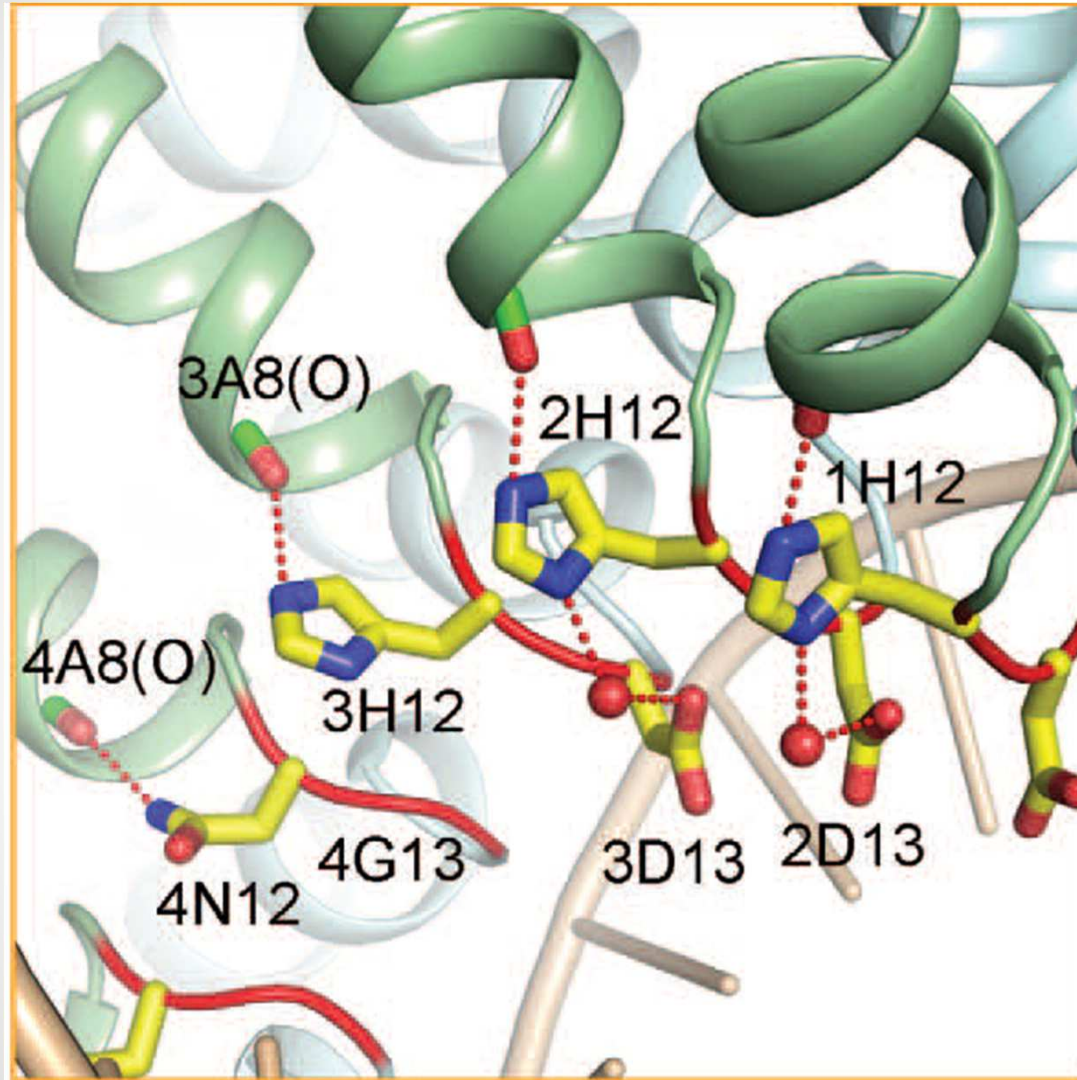


Struttura terziaria di un monomero

Pinza



# INTERAZIONE TALE-DNA

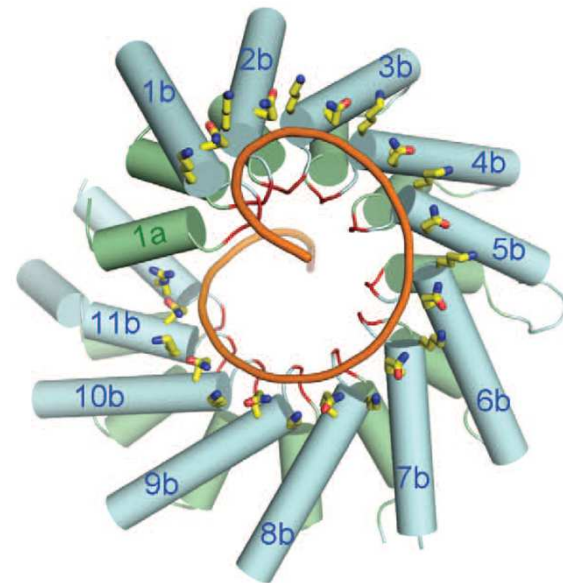
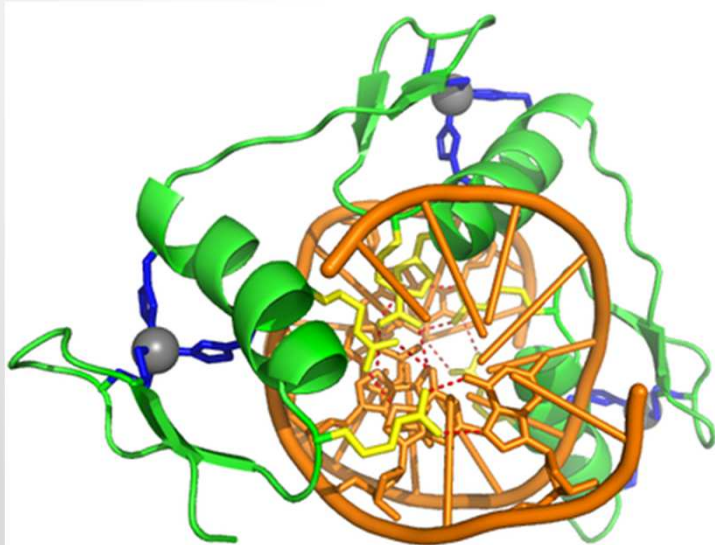
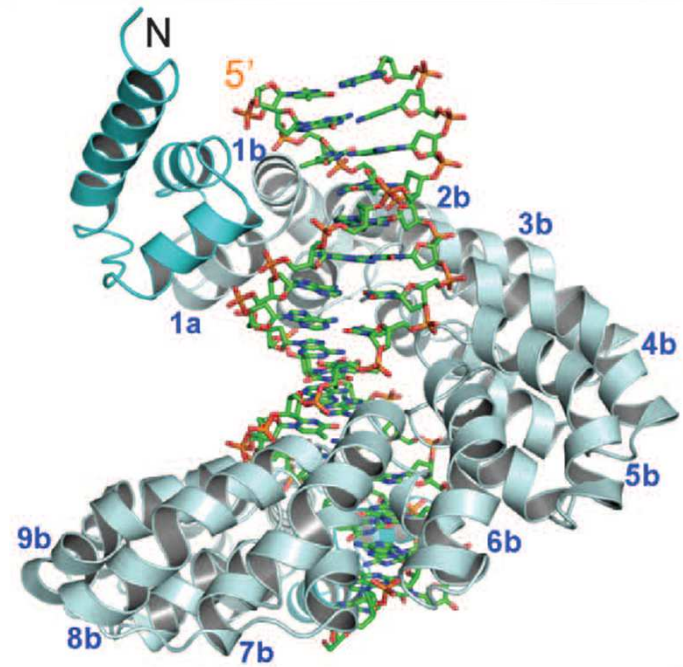
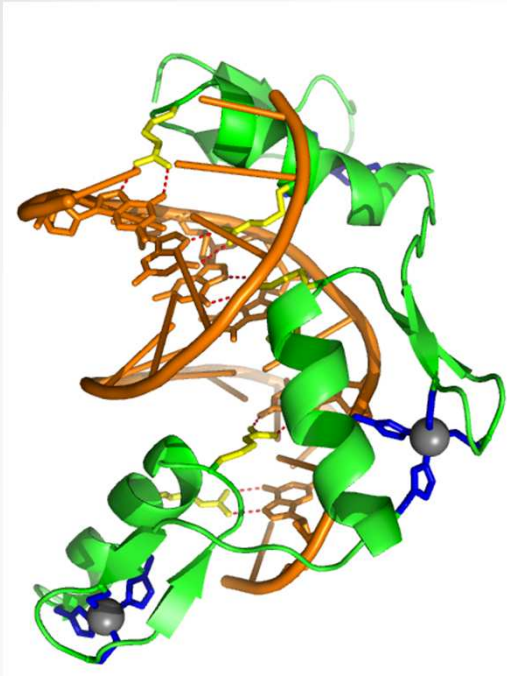


L' aminoacido in posizione 12 stabilizza il loop interagendo con l' alfa-elica minore (alanina in posizione 8).

L' interazione TALE/DNA avviene ad esclusivo carico dell' aminoacido in posizione 13 che interagisce direttamente con il nucleotide formando **legami idrogeno o interazioni di van der Waals**.



# ZFPs Versus TALEs



# ZFPs Versus TALEs

## ZFPs

ATGGGCTATCTCAAGTA  
TACCCGATAGAGTTCAT



Monomero: 28-30 aa

Target: NNN

Totale per il  
riconoscimento di 15  
nucleotidi: 150 aa

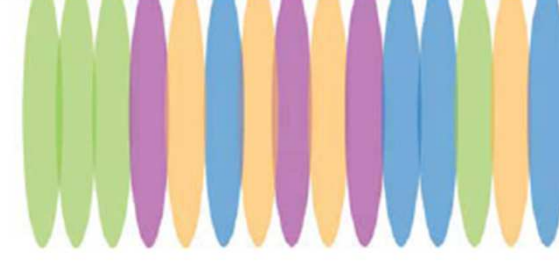
Design complicato: non esistono  
ZFP specifiche per tutte le triplette

Tecnologia brevettata:



## TALEs

TACCCGATAGAGTTCAT  
ATGGGCTATCTCAAGTA



Monomero: 34 aa

Target: N

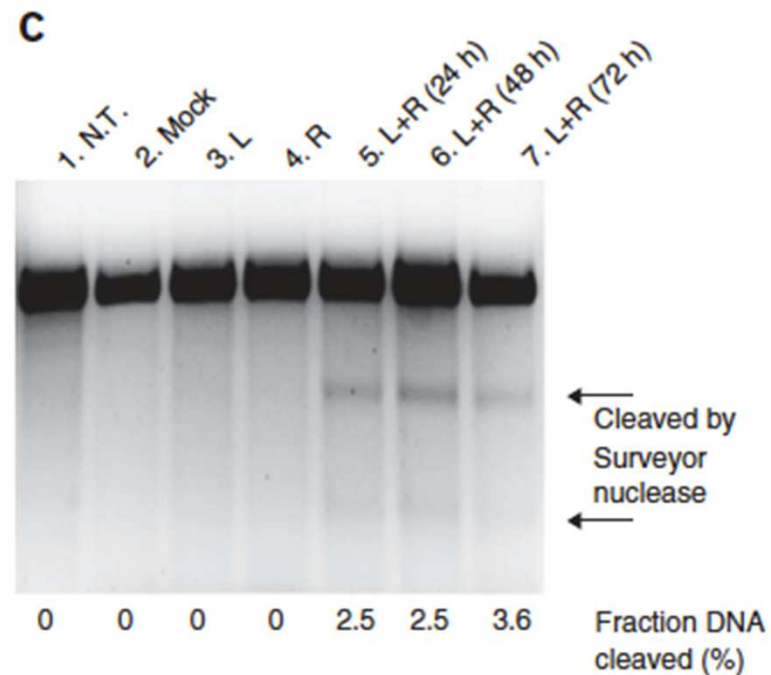
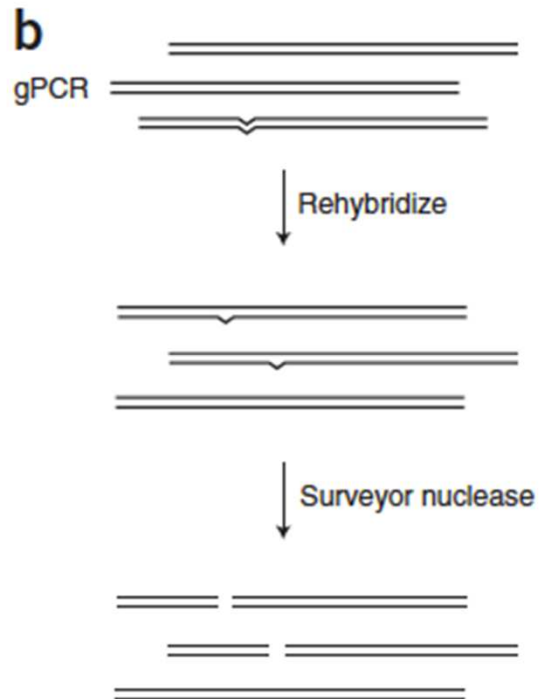
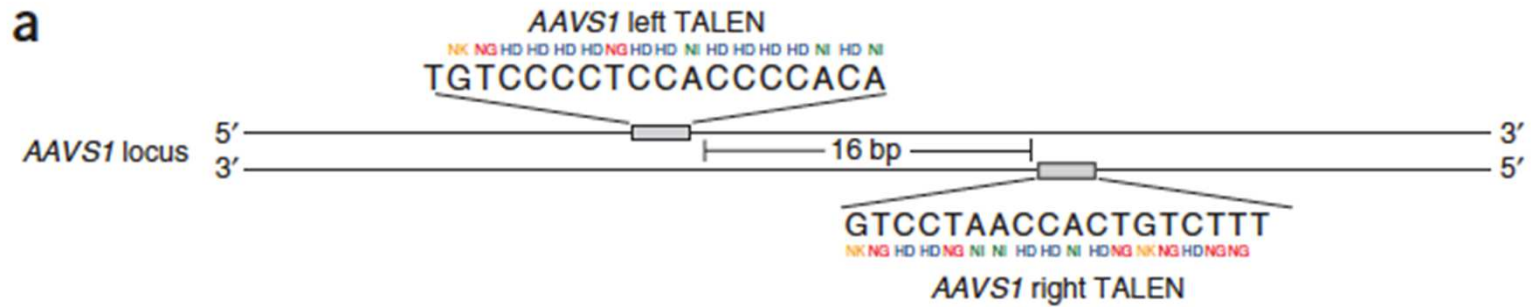
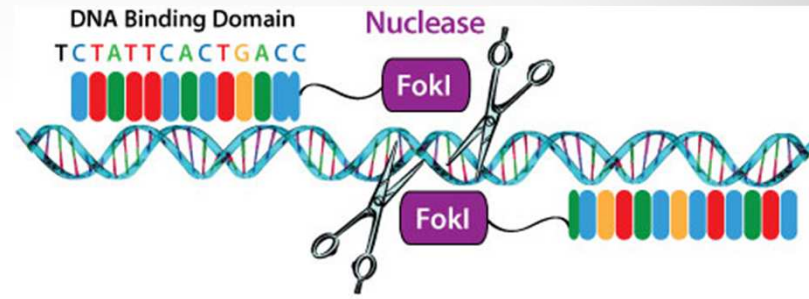
Totale per il riconoscimento  
di 15 nucleotidi: 510 aa

Design semplice: il nucleotide  
prima della sequenza target  
riconosciuta deve essere una  
Timina

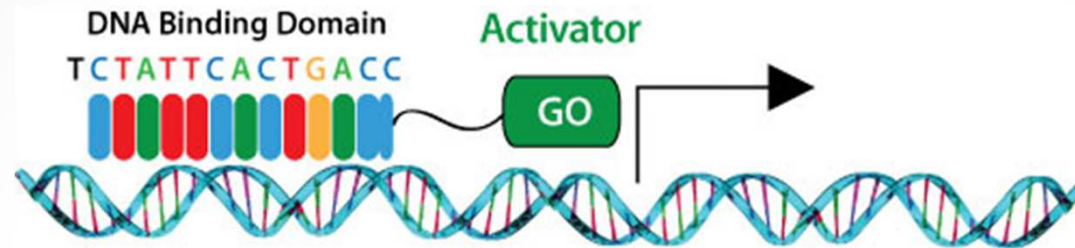




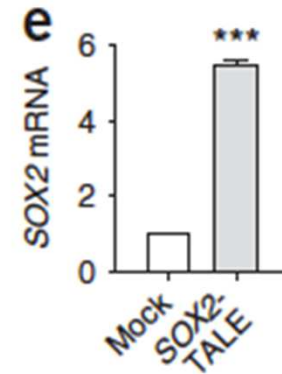
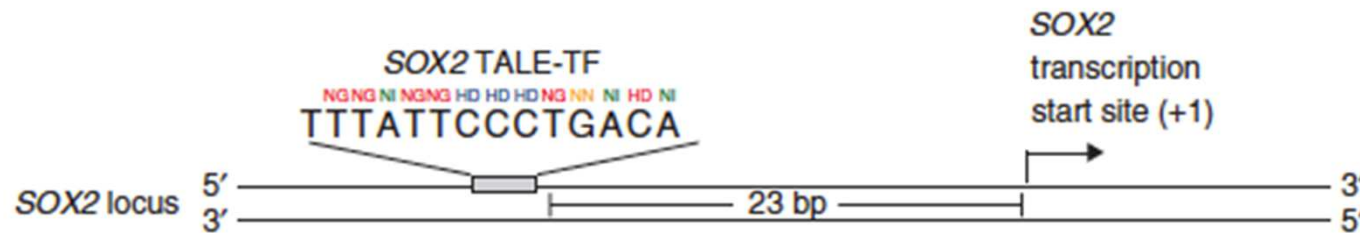
# TALEN: TALE-Nuclease



# TALE-TF: TALE-Transcription Factor



d



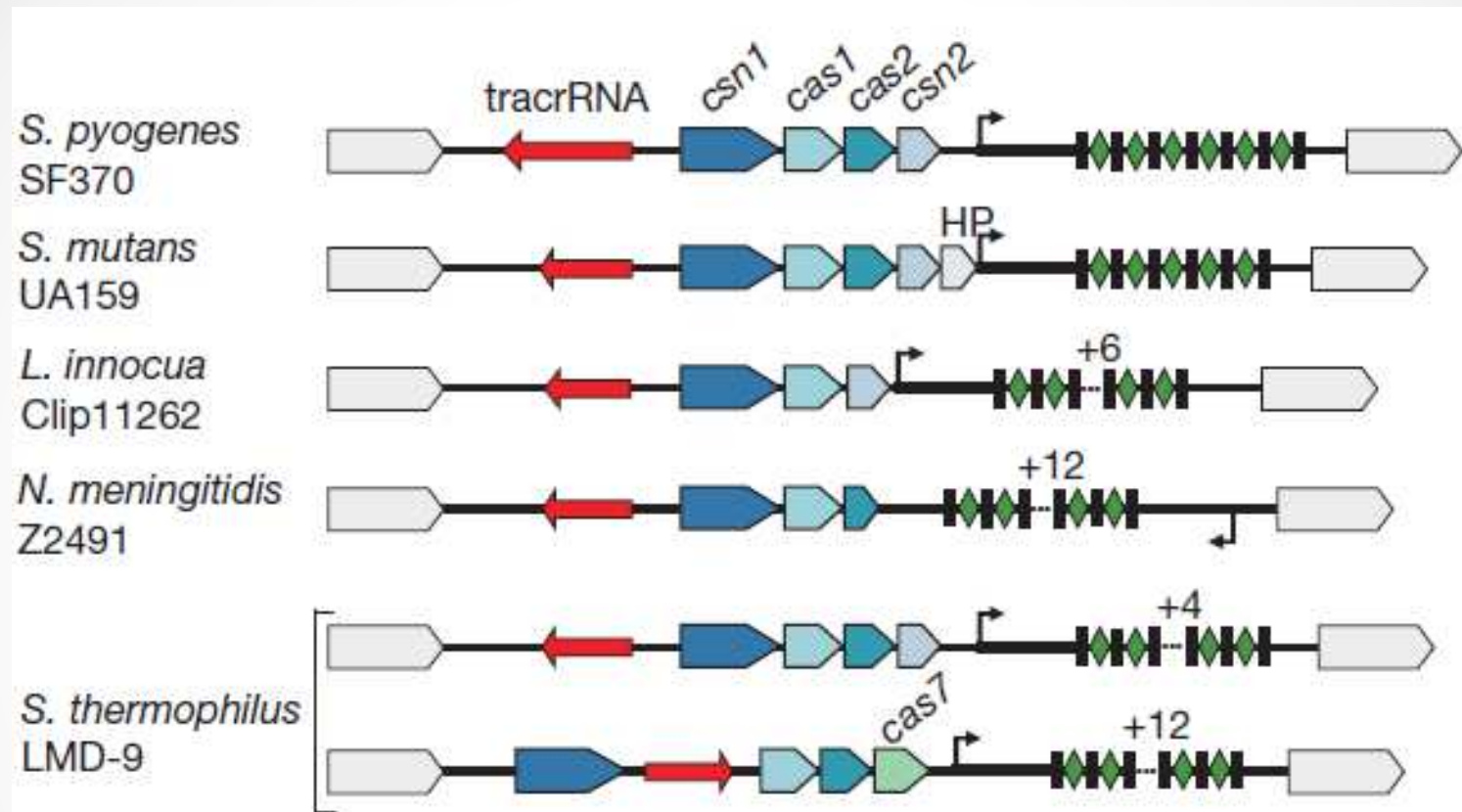
# CRISPRs/Cas9 SYSTEM



# Storia

- 1987: prima osservazione di **sequenze clusterizzate ripetute e palindromiche** nel genoma batterico
- 1997: regioni simili identificate nel 90% degli Archea e 40% dei batteri e denominate **CRISPR**

# Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats



**Figure 6** | tracrRNA-mediated crRNA maturation is conserved among different bacterial species. tracrRNA-mediated crRNA maturation is inherent to the type II (Nmeni/CASS4) CRISPR/Cas systems. Type II (Nmeni/CASS4) loci from *S. pyogenes* SF370, *S. mutans* UA159, *L. innocua* Clip11262, *N. meningitidis* Z2491 and *S. thermophilus* LMD-9 (Nmeni/CASS4a); red, tracrRNA; rectangles, repeats; diamonds, spacers.

# Storia

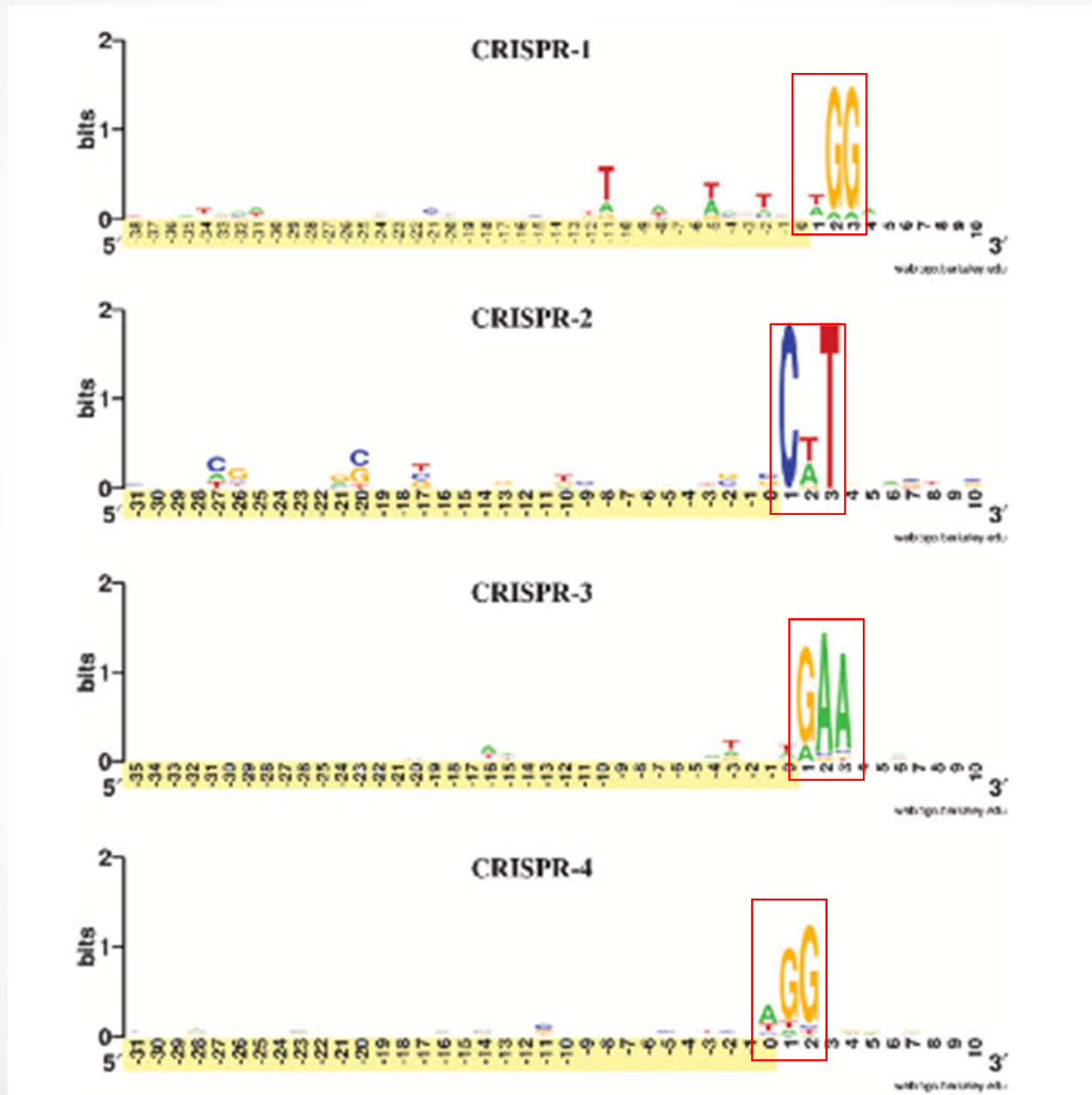
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- 2005: bioinformatici identificano in queste regioni piccoli frammenti **corrispondenti a genomi fagici**



CRISPR array

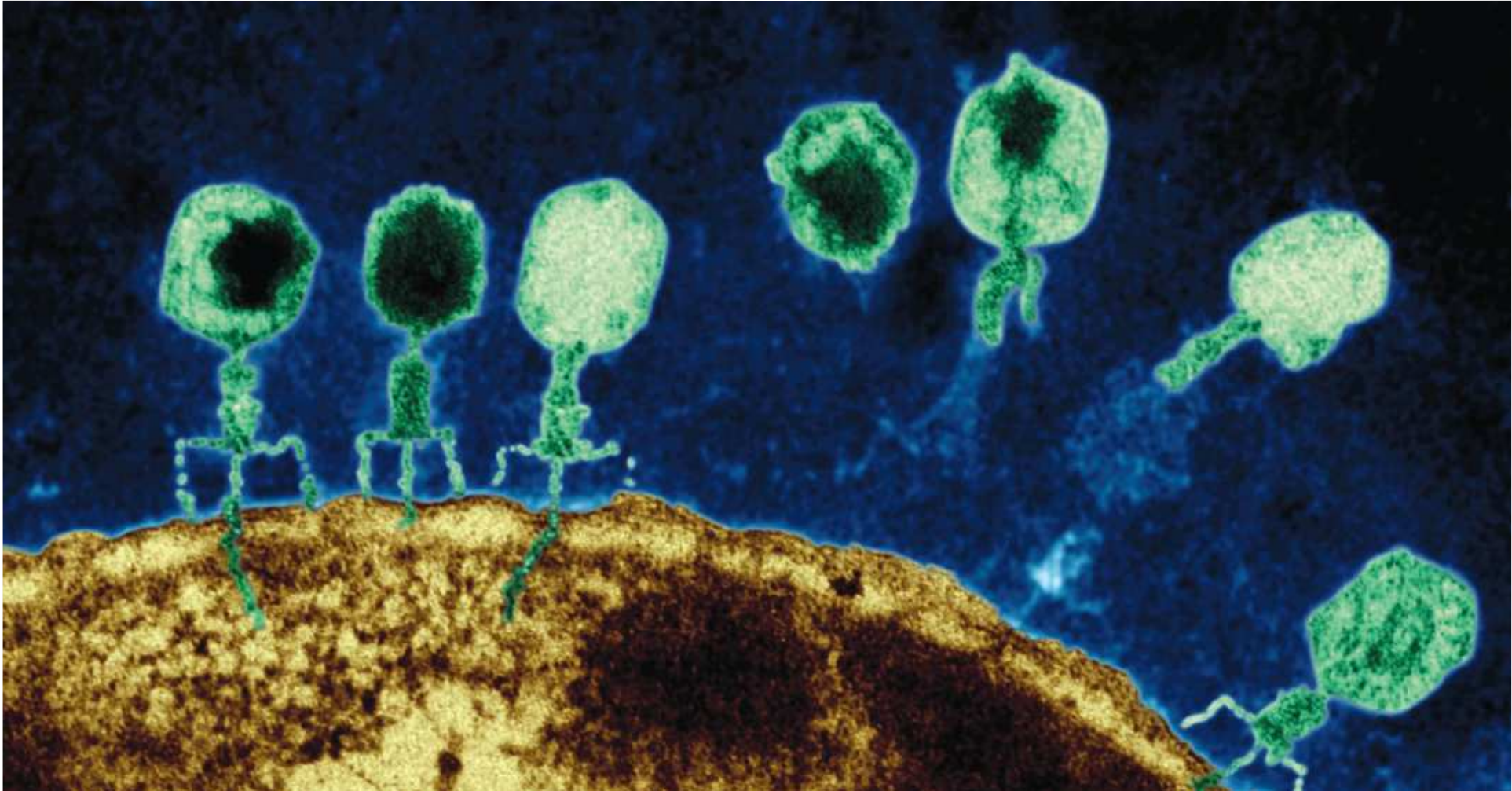


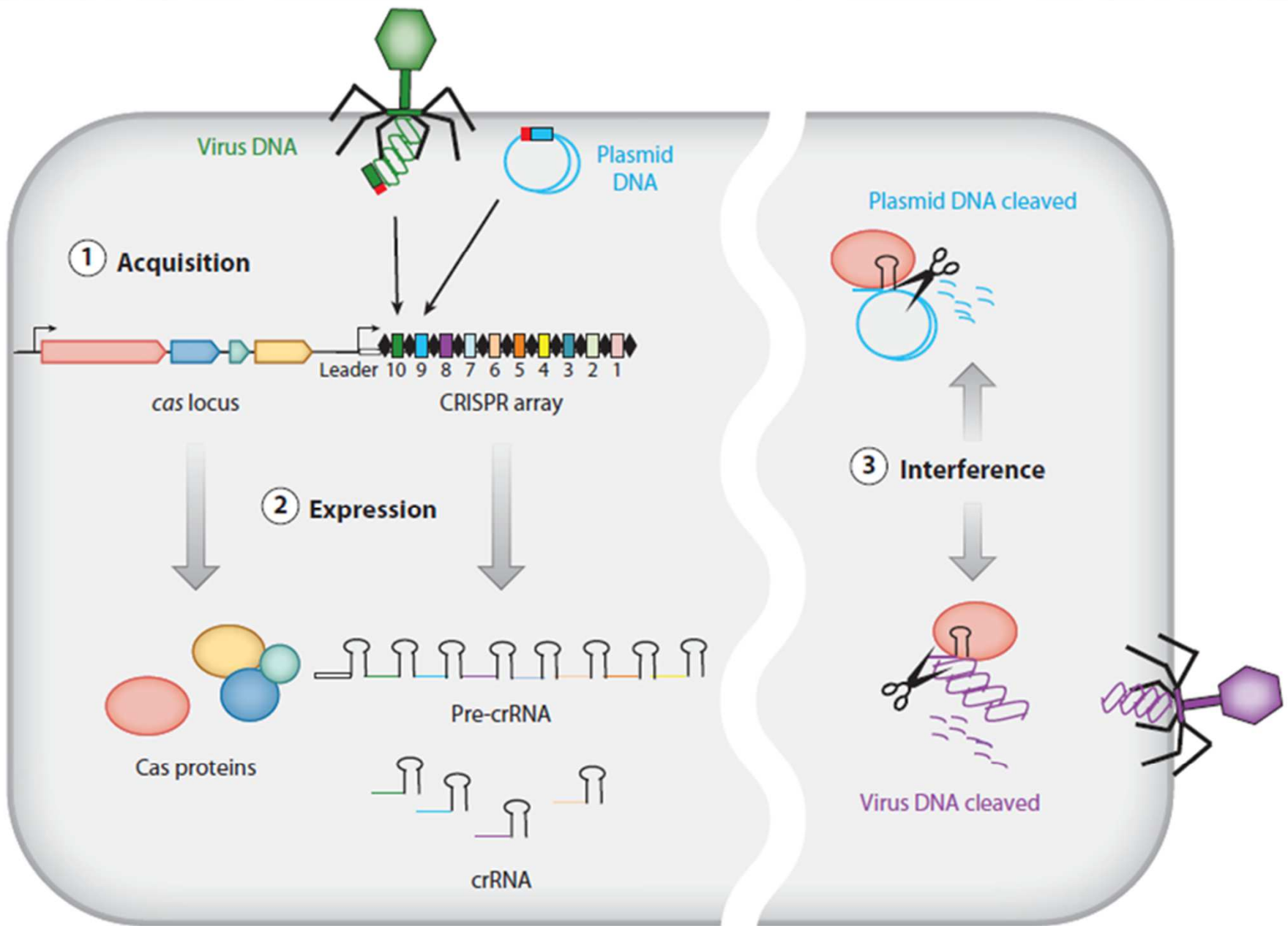
# Proto-spacer adjacent motifs (PAMs)



# Storia

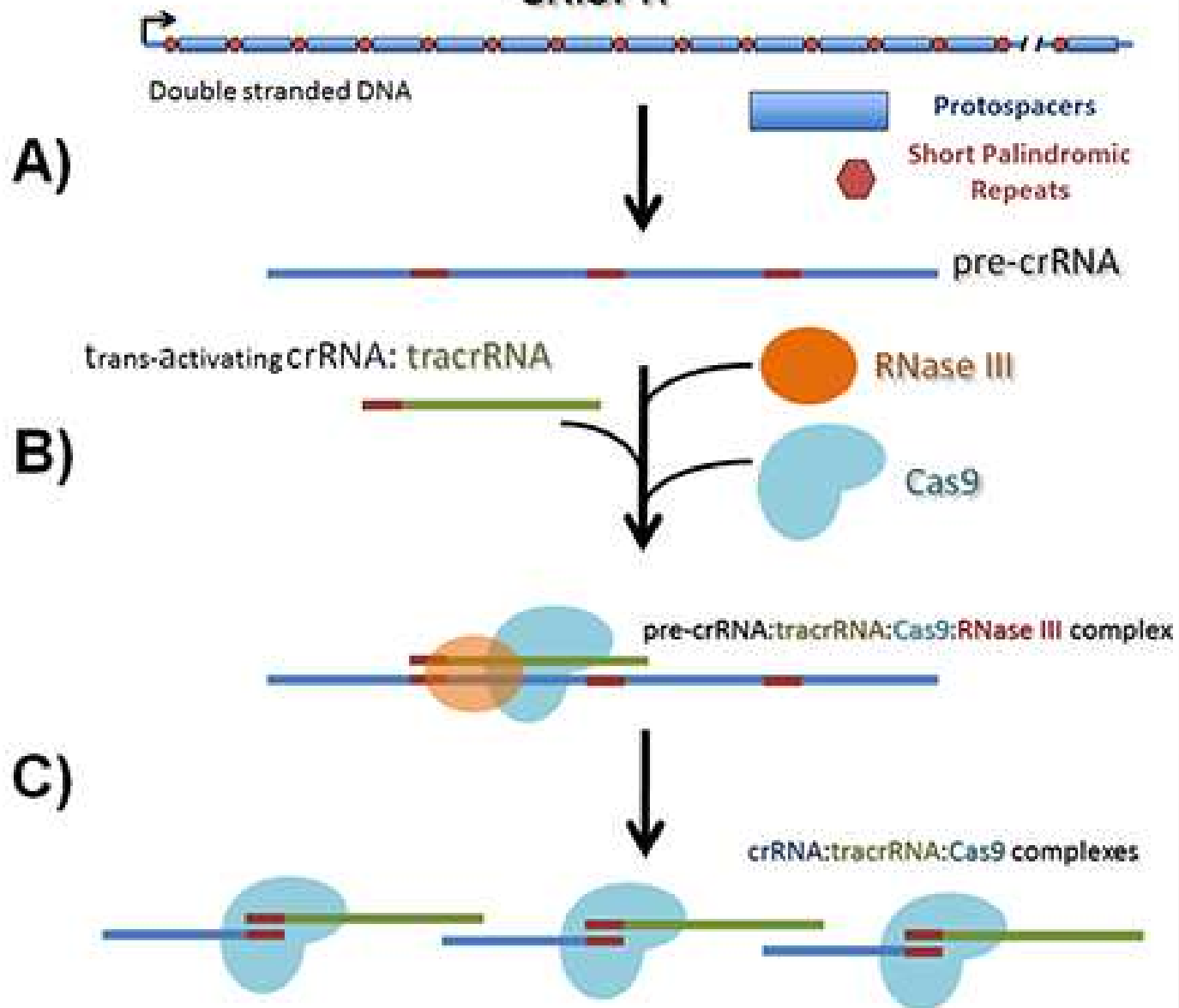
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- 2005: bioinformatici identificano in queste regioni piccoli frammenti **corrispondenti a genomi fagici**
- 2007: ricercatori dell'industria casearia modificano la **resistenza** di *S. thermophilus* **ai fagi** aggiungendo o rimuovendo sequenze presenti nelle regioni CRISPR





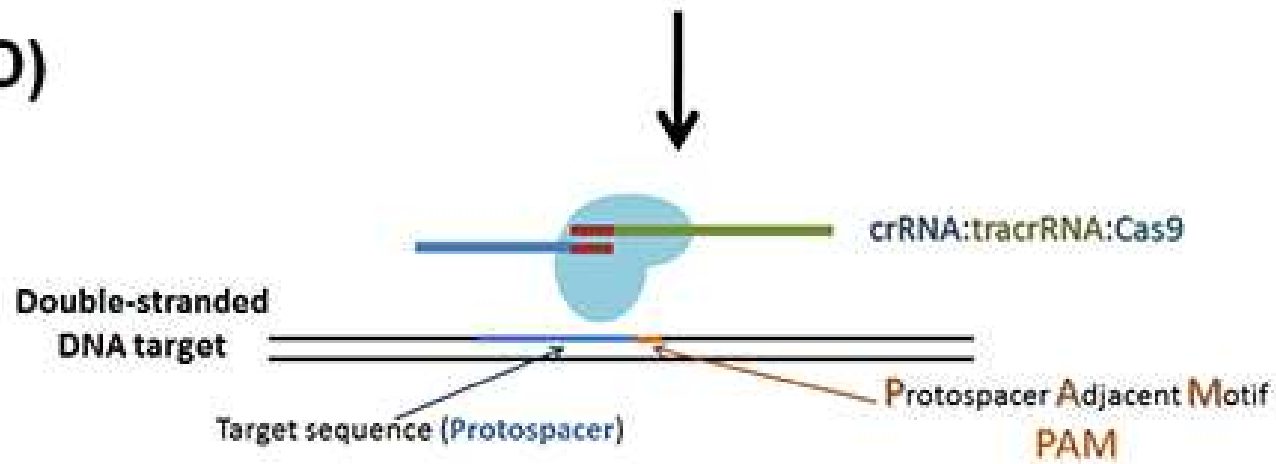
**CRISPR-Cas system**

# Clustered Regularly Interspersed Short Palindromic Repeats Array: CRISPR

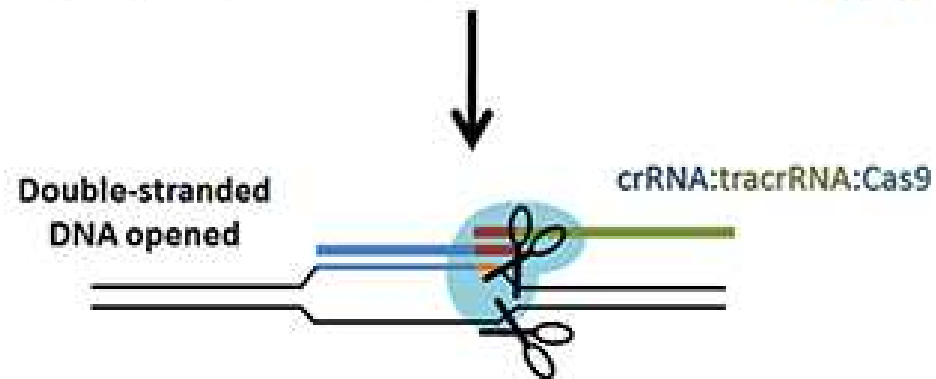




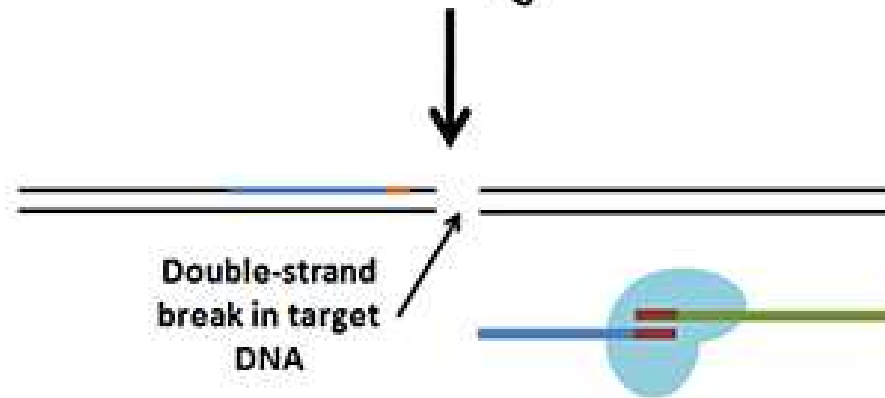
D)



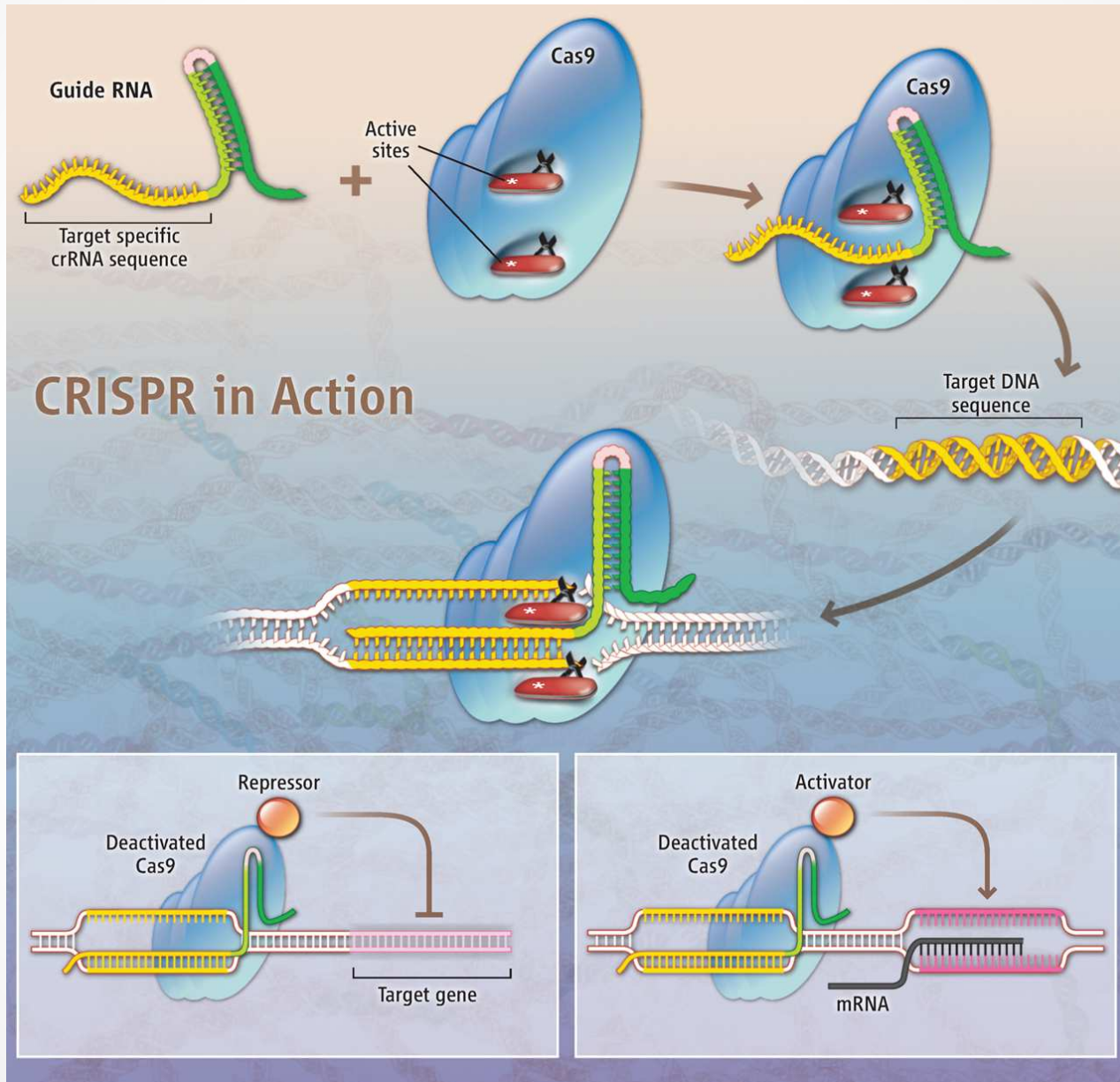
E)



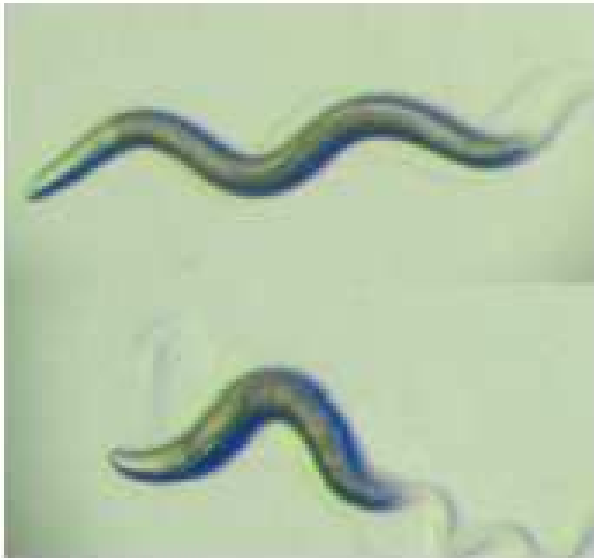
F)



# RNA-GUIDED GENOME EDITING

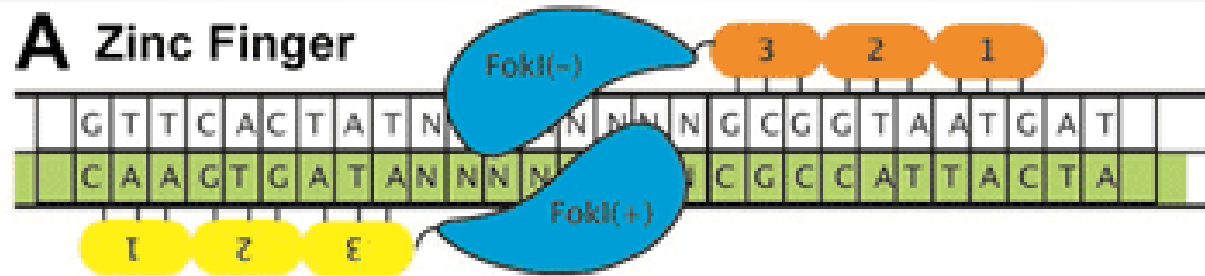




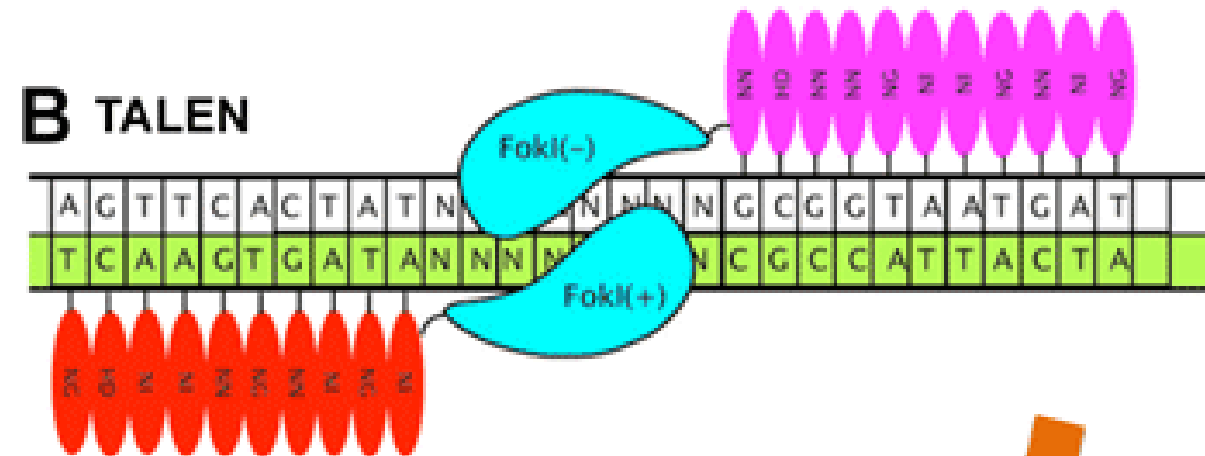


**Precise cuts.** In just 8 months, CRISPR modifications of DNA resulted in dumpier nematodes (*top*, bottom), zebrafish embryos with an excess of ventral tissue (*middle*, bottom), and fruit flies with dark eyes (*bottom*, right), demonstrating its broad utility for editing genes in animals.

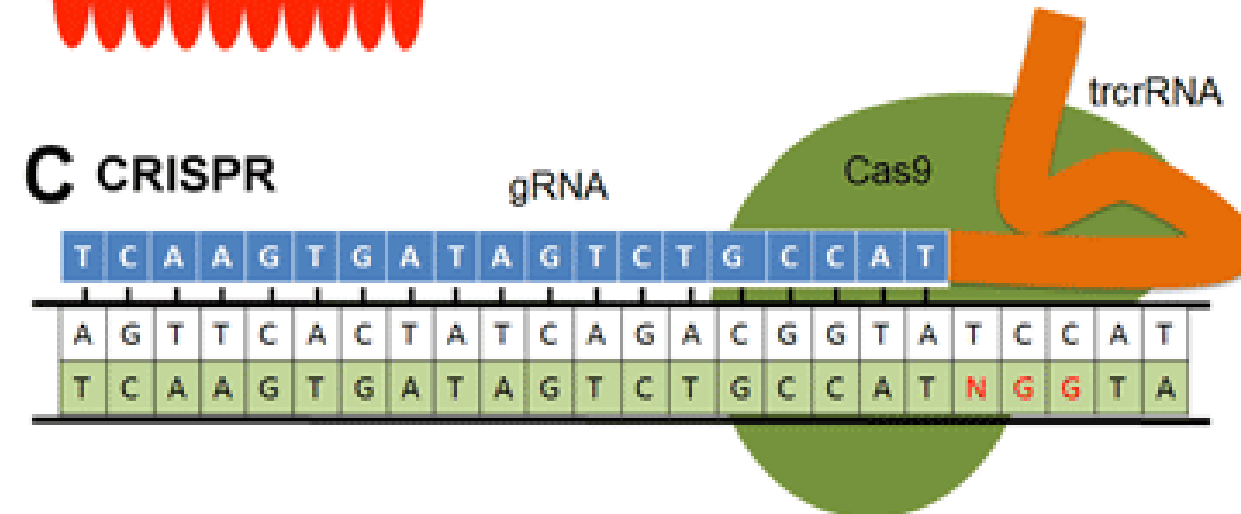
### A Zinc Finger



### B TALEN



### C CRISPR



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