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# Host-Virus Interactions in Bacterial Systems

## Position

Associate Professor, Sackler Faculty of Medicine

## Research

Our laboratory studies basic aspects of bacteriophage growth with emphasis on phage interactions with their bacterial hosts, and particularly, the recently identified bacterial defense system, the CRISPR. Our ultimate objective is to identify novel phage products and strategies that will assist in overcoming drug resistant pathogens.

We combine genetic and biochemical approaches to identify and characterize interactions of phage proteins with other phage or host proteins. Specifically, we employ the T7 phage and its *Escherichia coli* host as models. We use high throughput screening systems, transposon mutagenesis, tandem affinity purification, mass spectrometry, and classical as well as modern bacterial genetic methods to identify and characterize these viral-host interactions.

## Publications

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Yosef I, Goren MG, and Qimron U. Proteins and DNA elements essential for the CRISPR adaptation process in *Escherichia coli*. *Nucl Acid Res*, 40:5569-76, 2012. *Recommended by F1000* 

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Kiro R, Goren MG, Yosef I, and Qimron U. CRISPR adaptation in *Escherichia coli* type I-E system. *Biochem Soc Trans*, 41:1412-5, 2013.

Yosef I, Shitrit D, Goren MG, Burstein D, Pupko T, and Qimron U. DNA motifs determining the efficiency of adaptation into the *Escherichia coli* CRISPR array. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*, 110:14396-401, 2013. *Recommended by F1000*  Kiro R, Molshanski-Mor S, Yosef I, Milam SL, Erickson HP, and Qimron U. Gene-product 0.4 increases phage competitiveness by inhibiting host cell division. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*, 2013. 110:19549-54; Recommended by F1000.

Kiro R, Shitrit D, and **Qimron U.** Efficient engineering of a bacteriophage genome using the type I-E CRISPR-Cas system. *RNA Biol*, 11:42-4, 2014.

Yosef I, Kiro R, Molshanski-Mor S, Edgar E, and **Qimron U.** Different approaches for using bacteriophages against antibiotic-resistant bacteria. *Bacteriophage*, 4:e2849, 2014.

Molshanski-Mor S, Yosef I, Kiro R, Edgar R, Manor M, Gershovits M, Laserson M, Pupko T, and **Qimron U**. Revealing bacterial targets of growth inhibitors encoded by bacteriophage T7. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*, in press.

### Grants

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