Signal is © The Royal Society of Onemistry 2019 Unravelling the Evolutionary **Diversification Mechanism in Bacteria**

> **Biosynthetic gene clusters** (BGC) in bacteria diversify to produce a staggering array of natural products

Nonribosomal peptide synthetases (NRPSs)

Anti-cancer arugs

Antibiotics



What is the mechanism of this BGC diversification?





Gene cluster loss

Intracluster exchange

Intercluster exchange

Intra and intercluster exchange creates chemical diversity in bacteria that may be exploited for therapeutic use



Structure elucidation of the syringafactin lipopeptides provides insight in the evolution of nonribosomal peptide synthetases



Stallforth *et al.* (2019) DOI: 10.1039/c9sc03633d