

CvkR is a MerR-type transcriptional repressor of class 2 type V-K

CRISPR-associated transposase systems

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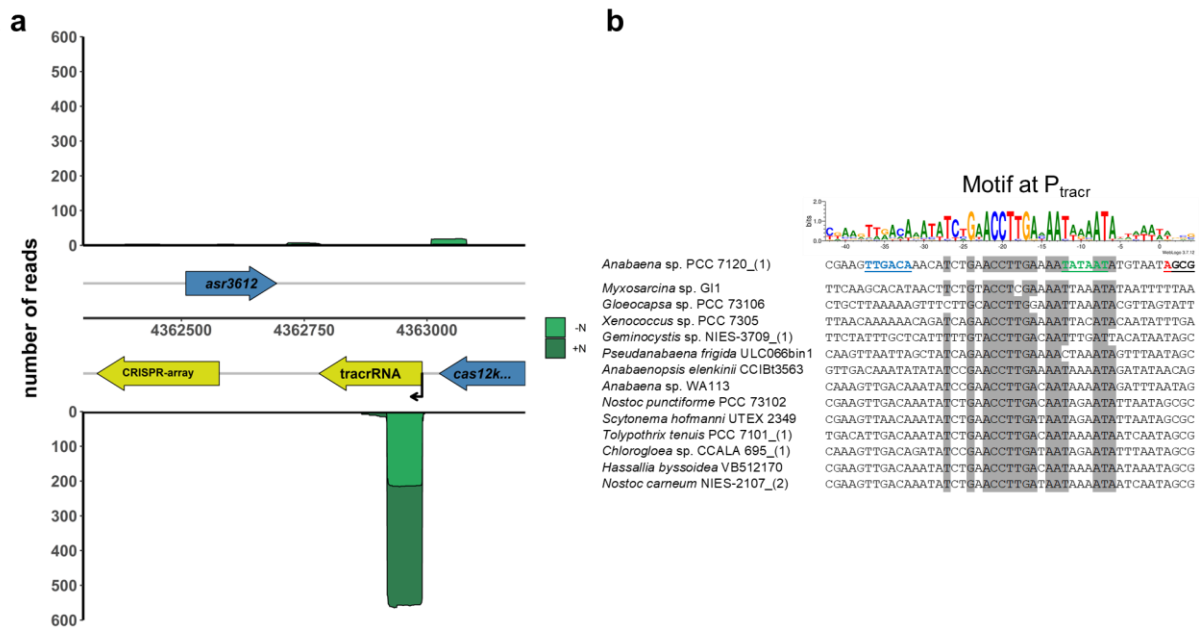
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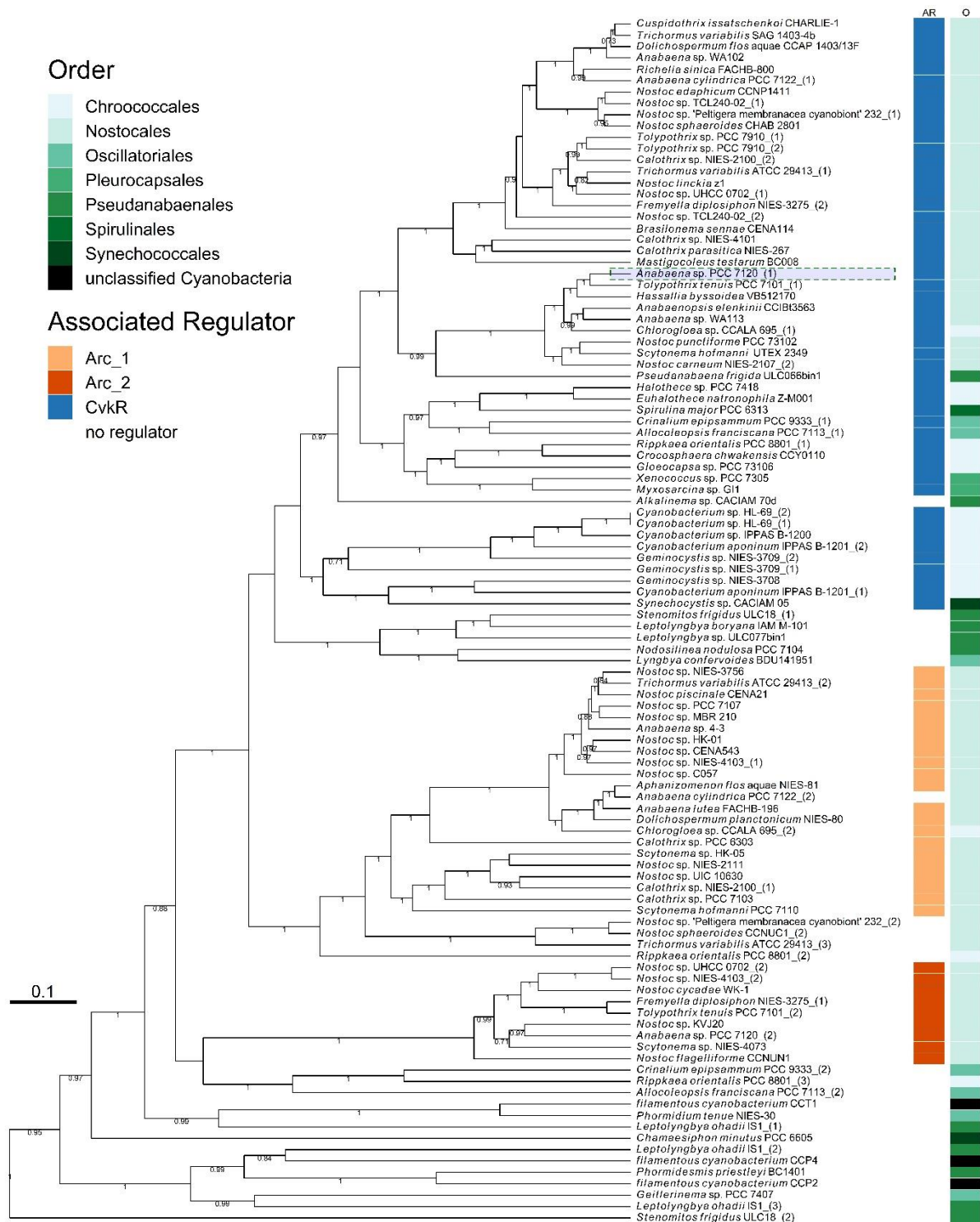
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Supplementary Material

Supplementary Figures

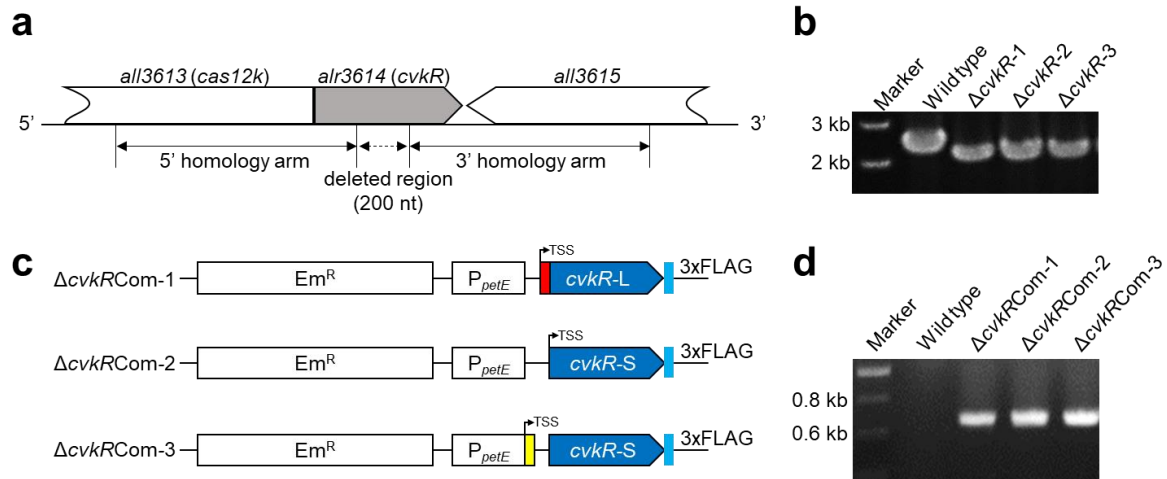


Supplementary Figure 1. The tracrRNA promoter (P_{tracr}). **a** Location of the tracrRNA TSS 35 nt downstream of *cas12k* in *Anabaena* 7120 according to the previous genome-wide mapping of TSS¹. **b** Sequence conservation in the tracrRNA promoters of different CAST systems belonging to the same subgroup as the *Anabaena* 7120 CvkR according to the phylogenetic analysis (**Supplementary Fig. 3**). Positions with $\geq 92\%$ conservation are shaded. Putative -10 and -35 elements of the promoter in the AnCAST system are colored green and blue, respectively, and the first tracrRNA nucleotides are underlined and in boldface letters (TSS in *Anabaena* 7120 is highlighted in red). One of the more closely related 15 systems according to **Supplementary Fig. 3** lacked a recognizable tracrRNA, therefore only 14 sequences were compared.

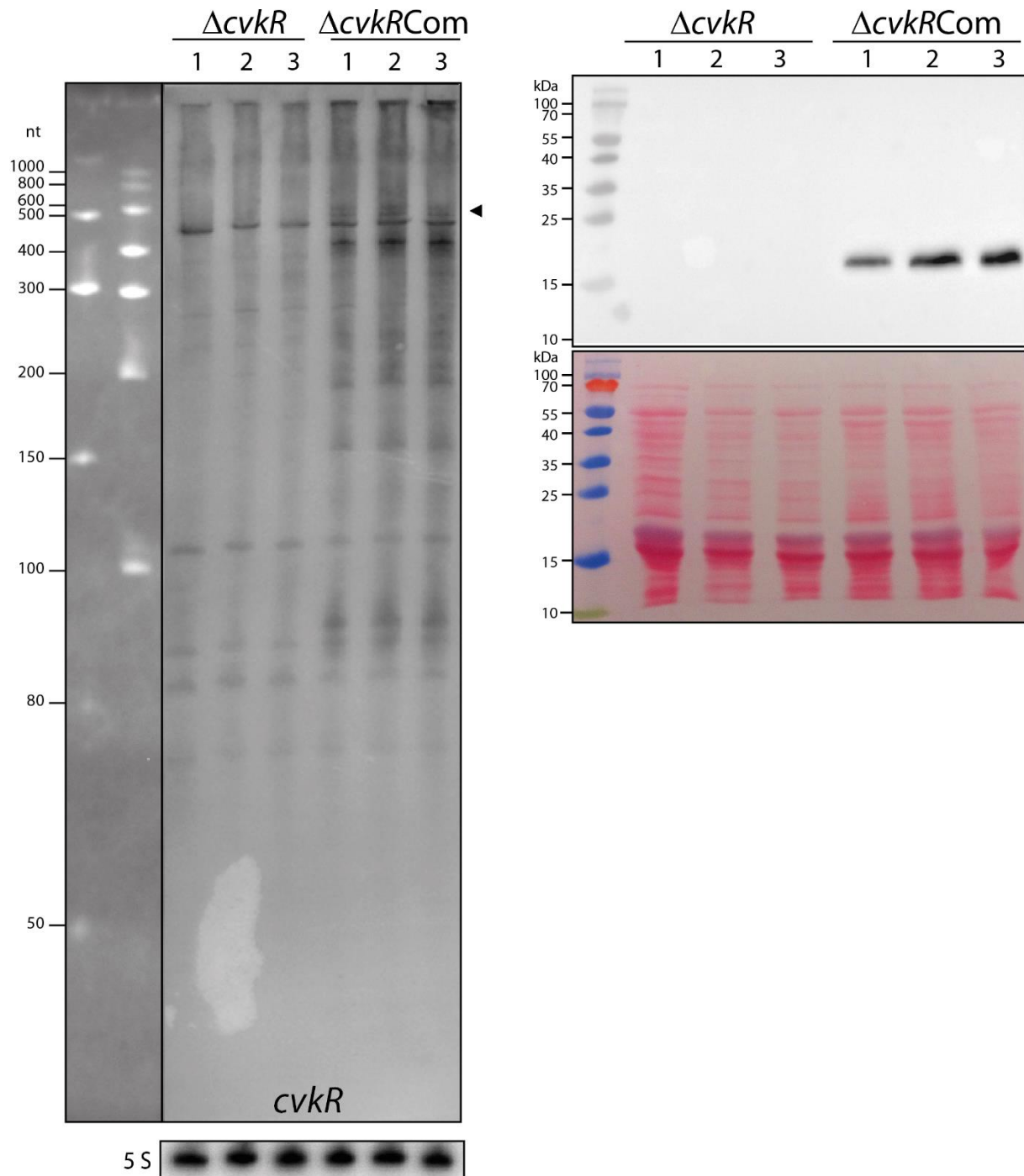


Supplementary Figure 2. Phylogenetic tree of Cas12k. The identified 106 complete Cas12k proteins were aligned using M-coffee^{2,3} and analyzed by BEAST⁴. Eleven instances of degenerated Cas12k proteins were intentionally let out to avoid misinterpretation. The resulting tree is depicted with branches labeled with their respective posterior probability until a threshold of 0.7. For better recognition, the proteins were

labeled with their respective host organism (see **Supplementary Data 1**). The associated regulator type (AR) and taxonomic order (O) of the respective host organism are also depicted. The *Anabaena* 7120 Cas12k (All3613) (NCBI: BAB75312.1) is marked with a green dashed box. The multiple sequence alignments are available in **Supplementary Data 4**.

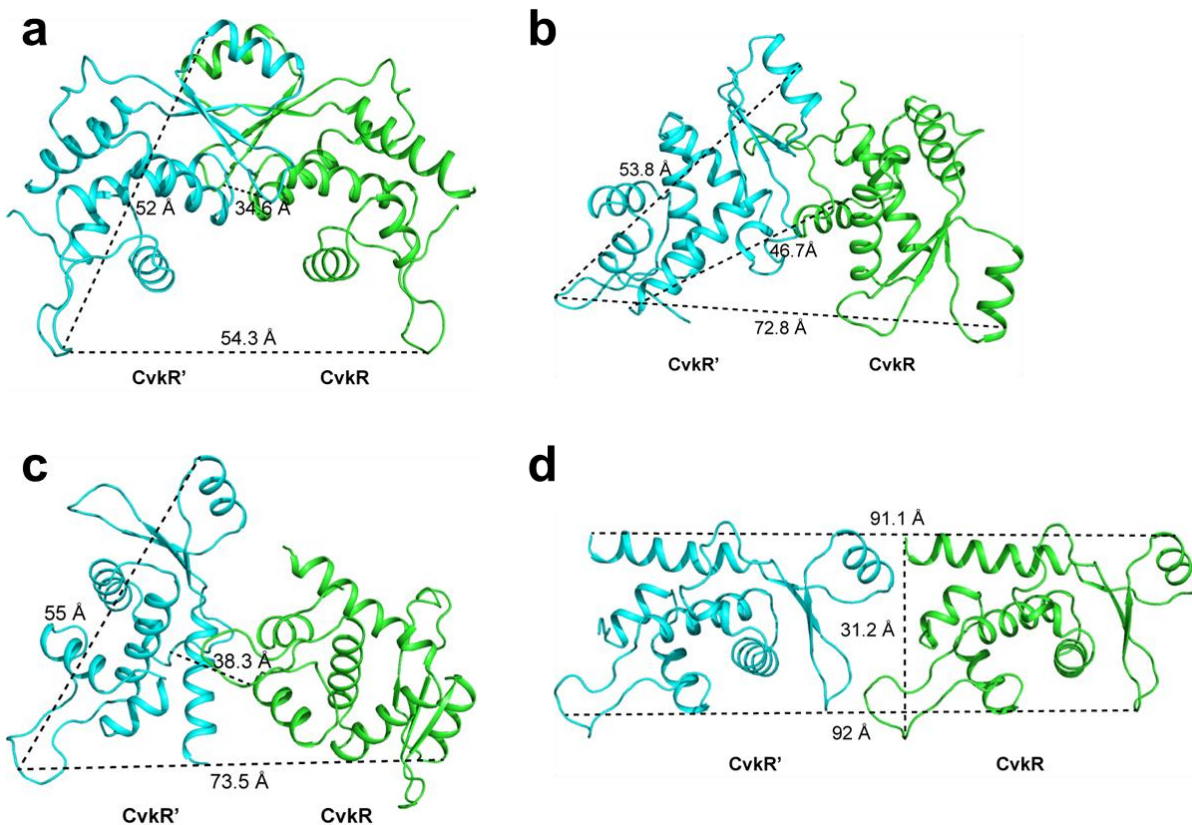


Supplementary Figure 4. Generation of *cvkR* deletion mutants and complementation of $\Delta cvkR$. **a** Schematic drawing of the deleted regions and flanking regions of *cvkR*. **b** PCR assays showing successful segregation of deletion mutants in three independent replicates each. **c** Schematic drawing of the three cassettes for analyzing the leaderless expression of *cvkR*. The red bar indicates the extra 54-bp fragment at the 5'-end of *cvkR-L* compared to *cvkR-S*. The yellow bar indicates the 31 nt long 5'UTR of *petE*. **d** PCR assays showing successful construction of reporter strains for monitoring leaderless expression of *cvkR*. Please note that the result of one positive colony out of five (n=5) is shown for each reporter strain.

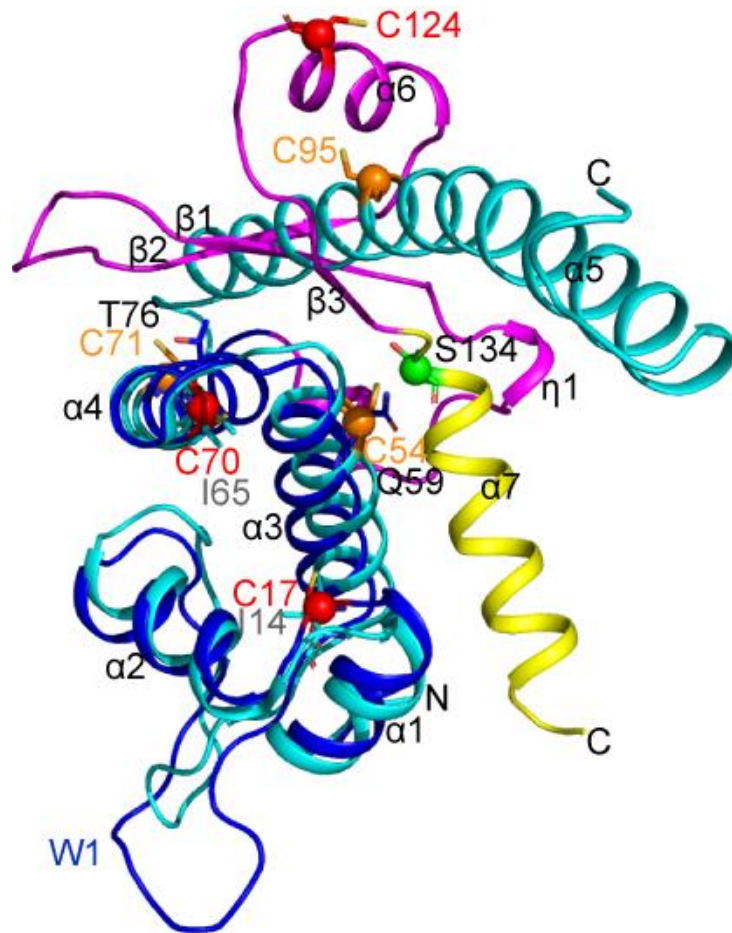


Supplementary Figure 5. Verification of absence or overexpression of CvkR in $\Delta cvkR$ or $\Delta cvkRCom$, respectively. Left: Northern blot hybridization against *cvkR* in three independent replicates of $\Delta cvkR$ and $\Delta cvkRCom$. The precise length of the *cvkR* mRNA is unknown because the transcript level in *Anabaena* 7120 WT is below the detection limit. The *cvkR* gene length is 453 bp. Taking the short-added sequence and

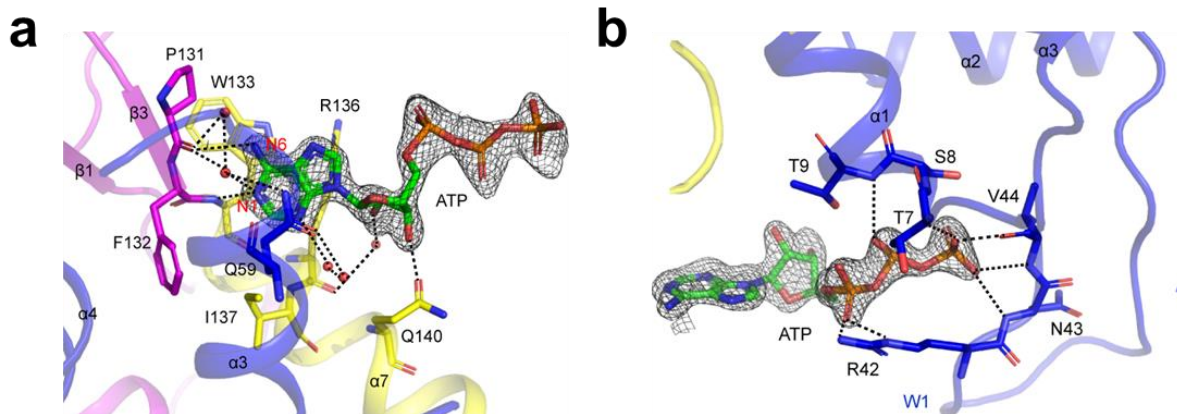
3'UTR into account, a correspondingly-sized additional signal in $\Delta cvkRCom$ represents the target *cvkR* band (labeled by triangle). Total RNA (20 μ g) was loaded on a 10% PAA 8.3 M urea gel. The Low Range ssRNA Ladder (NEB) and the RiboRuler Low Range RNA Ladder (Thermo Fisher Scientific) were used as size markers. Right: Western blot against CvkR with an N-terminal 3xFLAG tag (upper panel) in three independent replicates of $\Delta cvkR$ and $\Delta cvkRCom$. The stained membrane is shown in the lower panel. The calculated molecular mass for CvkR is 20.16 kDa. The prestained PageRuler (Thermo Fisher Scientific) was used as a size marker. Ten micrograms of total protein were loaded on a 15% SDS-PAA gel. Two separate experiments were performed, which showed consistent results.



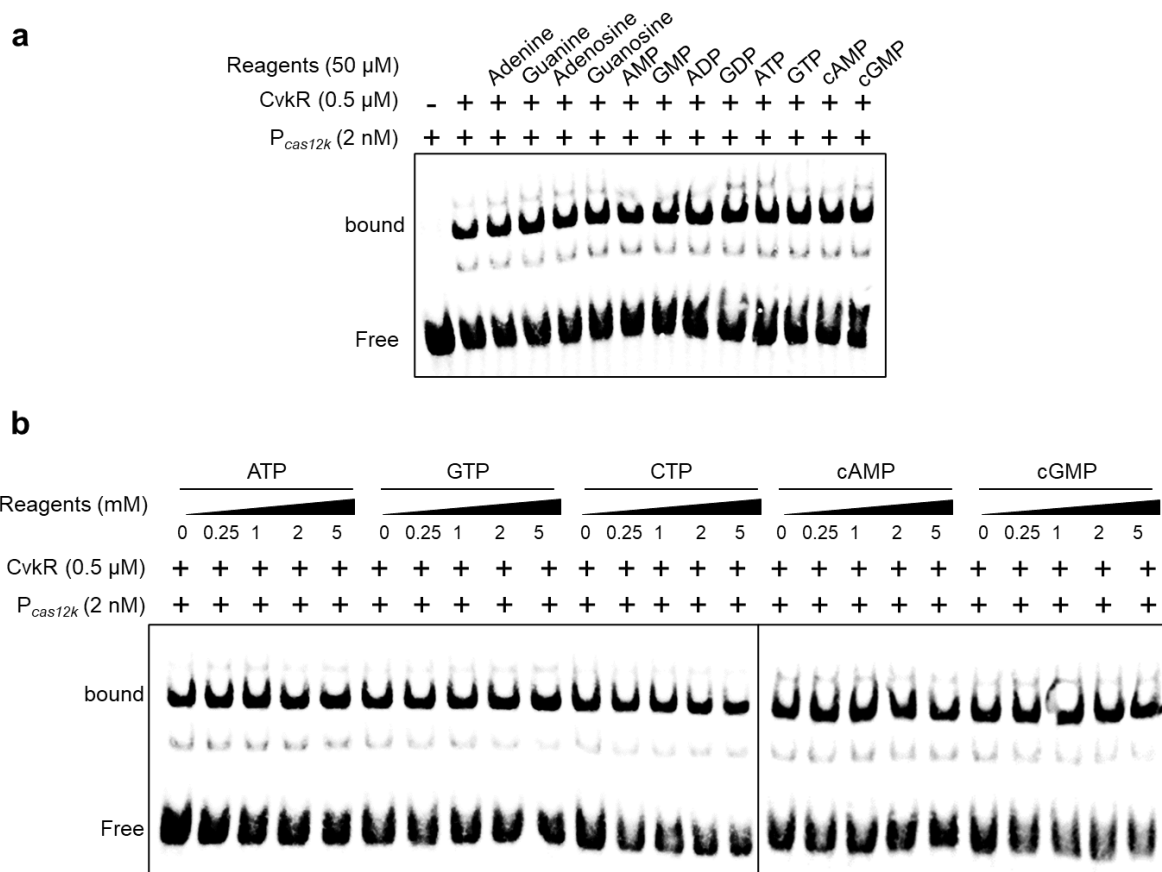
Supplementary Figure 7. Analysis of CvkR homodimer in structure. a-d four potential dimeric partners (CvkR', cyan) of CvkR (green) are found through different crystallographic symmetry operations. The resulting four homodimers have interface areas of 997.6 \AA^2 , 843.3 \AA^2 , 372.2 \AA^2 , and 276.6 \AA^2 , respectively, as calculated by webtool PDBePISA⁵. The sizes of CvkR-CvkR' homodimers are respectively further measured and labeled from several structural angles. The dimeric architecture, assembled by two vertically symmetric CvkR monomers shown in panel a, is similar to other reported MerR family members and is further approved by PISA assembly analysis and DLS assay.



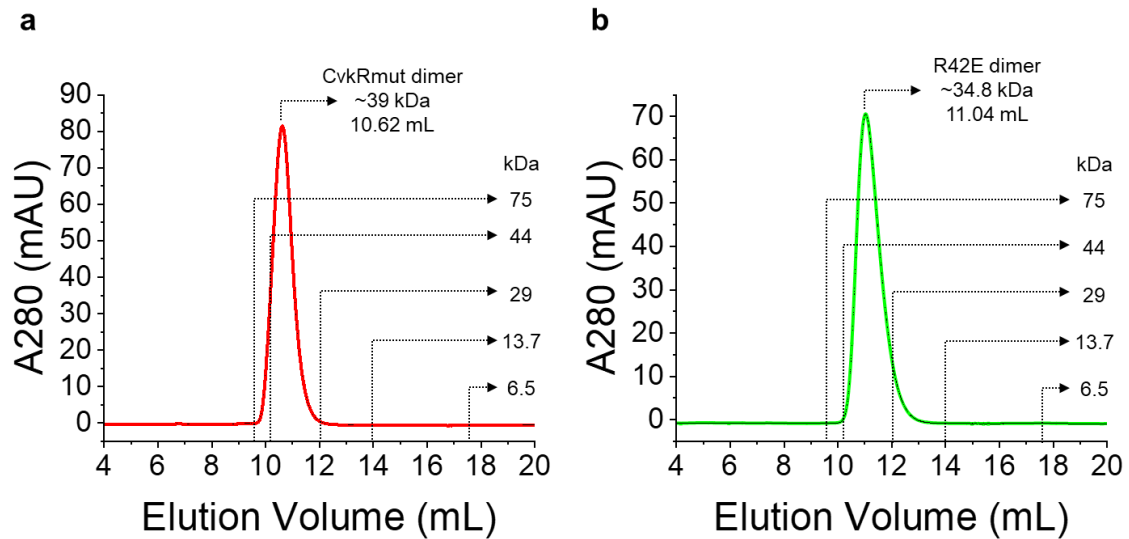
Supplementary Figure 8. Representation of cysteine sites in CvkR. The cysteine residues are represented in spheres and sticks and labeled with red in CvkR and with orange in HiNmIR (PDB code 5D8C, cyan). The Ser134 residue in CvkR is shown in green sphere and stick. Residues matching the positions of cysteines are shown in sticks and marked with black (CvkR) and gray (HiNmIR).



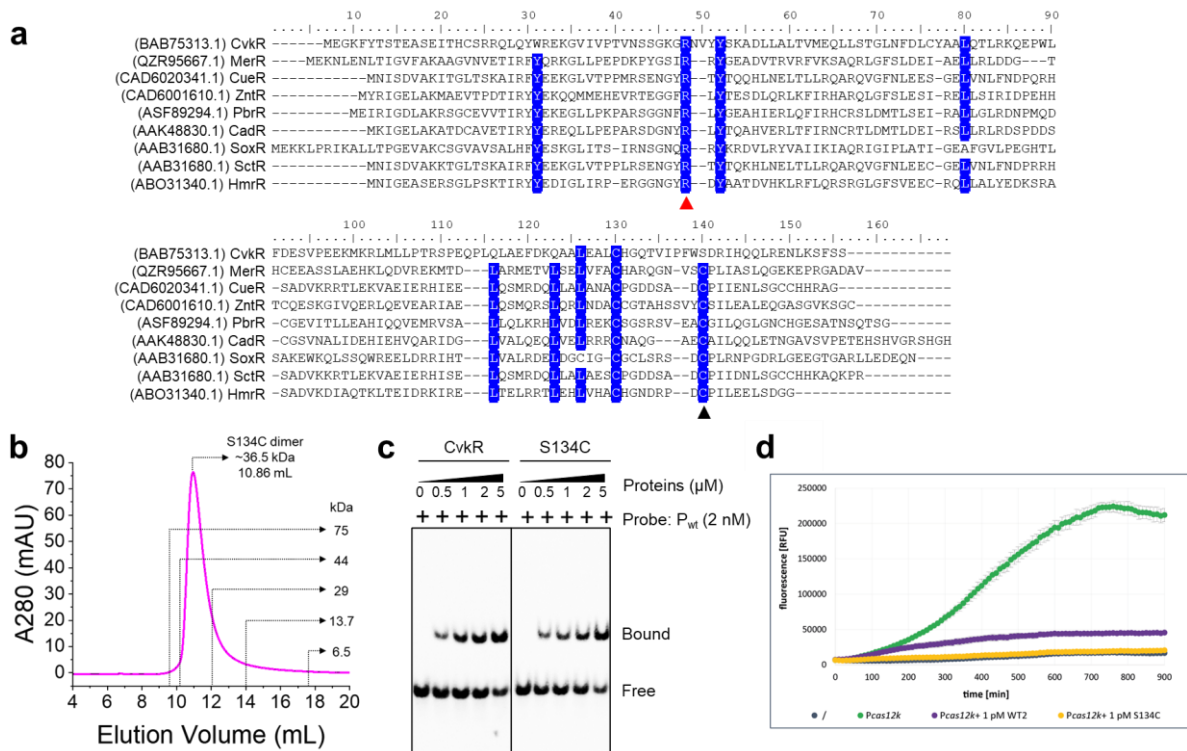
Supplementary Figure 9. ATP binding site of CvkR. **a** Close view of the ATP binding site in the CvkR monomer. **b** The ATP triphosphate group interacts with the WHTH domain of the adjacent CvkR monomer. The ATP ligand is represented in green stick and colored by the atom type. The N1 and N6 sites of ATP are labeled in red. The 2Fo-Fc density for the ATP is contoured in gray at 1.5σ . The key residues involving in ATP binding are shown in sticks and labeled in black. Hydrogen bonds are indicated by dashed lines. The water molecules involved in hydrogen bonds are presented as red spheres.



Supplementary Figure 10. EMSA assays showing the binding of CvkR to P_{cas12k} in the presence of multiple molecules with similar chemical structures to ATP. **a EMSA showing the DNA binding ability of CvkR with the addition of adenine, adenosine, AMP, ADP, ATP, cAMP, guanine, guanosine, GMP, GDP, GTP and cGMP. **b** EMSA showing the DNA binding ability of CvkR with concentration gradients of ATP, GTP, CTP, cAMP, and cGMP. EMSA assays showing the binding of S134C to the *cas12k* promoter. The P_{cas12k} probe was used for the assay. The data are representative from three independent experiments. The free probe and complexes of P_{cas12k} with CvkR are marked as “Free” and “Bound”, respectively.**



Supplementary Figure 11. Molecular weight estimates of CvkR mutant proteins by size exclusion chromatography (SEC) with Superdex 75 10/300 GL column (GE Healthcare). Calibration standards are indicated. a The elution volume of CvkRmut was 10.62 mL, corresponding to a mass of ~39 kDa. **b** The elution volume of R42E was 11.04 mL, corresponding to a mass of ~34.8 kDa. The estimated masses of both mutant proteins correspond to twice their calculated theoretical molecular weights.



Supplementary Figure 12. Characterization of S134C mutant of CvkR. **a** Multiple sequence alignment of CvkR with selected MerR-type regulators. The NCBI accession numbers of the MerR-type regulators are given in brackets. The sequence alignment was performed using MAFFT⁶, and visualized with BioEdit⁷. Threshold for shading is 80% identity. The black triangle indicates CvkR lacks a cysteine residue in the C-terminal sensor domain which is conserved in the selected members of the MerR-type regulators. The red triangle indicates one of the conserved arginine reported to interact with the phosphate backbone of promoter DNA^{8,9}. **b** Molecular weight estimates of S134C mutant protein on SEC. Calibration standards are indicated. The elution volume of S134C was 10.86 mL, corresponding to a mass of ~36.5 kDa (twice its calculated molecular weight). **c** EMSA assays showing the binding of S134C to the *cas12k* promoter. The 33-nt P_{wt} probe was used for the assay. The data are representative from three independent experiments. The free probe and complexes of P_{wt} with S134C are

marked as “Free” and “Bound”, respectively. **d** TXTL assay to test the regulatory capacity of S134C compared to CvkR WT2 for repressing deGFP fluorescence expressed from p70a under the control of P_{cas12k} (5 nM). Error bars show the standard deviation and are derived from 2 technical replicates. The experiments were repeated twice independently. The TXTL reactions were performed at 29°C overnight, and fluorescence was measured every 10 min in a Wallac 1420 Victor2 microplate reader. Error bars show the standard deviation derived from two technical replicates.

Supplementary Tables

Supplementary Table 1. Number of identified CAST associated regulator homologs and of CAST typical components in close vicinity.

	Total hits	near <i>cas12k</i>	near Left end	near CRISPR-array	near tracrRNA	near tRNA	no CAST-components
CvkR	157	130	93	61	85	100	11
Arc_1	32	25	22	19	24	25	5
Arc_2	21	14	15	10	10	14	2
total	210	169	130	90	119	139	18

Supplementary Table 2. Microarray analysis of $\Delta cvkR$ or $\Delta cvkRCom$ strains.

Transcripts with significantly different accumulation levels in $\Delta cvkR$ compared to the complementation strain $\Delta cvkRCom$. The microarray data was normalized using the R-implementation in package limma¹¹ and resulted p-values from t-tests were corrected using the Benjamini and Hochberg method to control the False Discovery Rate (FDR) of differential expression¹². Threshold: $|\log_2| \geq 1$, p-value ≥ 0.01 . Two replicates were used for the microarray experiment.

Probe_Label	Gene/region_Function	location	log ₂ FC	adj. pvalue
alr0738_igFwd	intergenic	chr	-2.413	1.41E-03
<i>rtcB</i>	RNA-splicing ligase	chr	-2.382	4.19E-03
<i>cvkR</i>	CvkR	chr	-2.203	4.77E-04
nTSS_52243_52243	tRNA L-array	delta	-1.987	4.77E-04
<i>all8564</i>	restriction endonuclease	delta	-1.743	1.41E-03
<i>alr0739</i>	uncharacterized conserved protein Ydel	chr	-1.616	5.37E-04
<i>alr0740</i>	slipin family protein	chr	-1.500	1.06E-04
<i>asr0855</i>	unknown	chr	-1.328	4.19E-03
<i>all7121</i>	cytochrome c domain-containing protein	alpha	1.075	1.41E-03
all0328_igFwd	intergenic	chr	1.109	3.81E-03
alr0786_igRev	intergenic	chr	1.268	3.28E-03
<i>pecB</i>	phycoerythrocyanin beta-chain	chr	1.300	4.19E-03
all0736_igRev	intergenic	chr	1.344	8.26E-03
alr1198_igFwd	intergenic	chr	1.387	1.12E-03
<i>pecA</i>	phycoerythrocyanin alpha-chain	chr	1.416	1.68E-03
<i>pecC</i>	phycoerythrocyanin-associated rod linker protein	chr	1.435	1.69E-04
tracrRNA	CAST tracrRNA	chr	1.493	4.33E-03
<i>cas12k</i> probe 1	CAST effector gene	chr	1.550	1.41E-03
all3391_igFwd	intergenic	chr	1.567	4.77E-04
<i>tnsB</i>	CAST transposase	chr	1.594	4.67E-04
<i>cas12k</i> probe 2	CAST effector gene	chr	1.870	9.16E-05

Supplementary Table 3. Oligonucleotide primers used in this work. Sequences belonging to the T7 promoter are underlined. Primers were purchased from IDT or Tsingke.

<i>alr3614</i> deletion mutant ($\Delta cvkR$) construction		
alr3614gRNA-1	AGATCATTAACAGTAATGGAGCAG	gRNA for <i>cvkR</i>
alr3614gRNA-2	AGACCTGCTCCATTACTGTTAATG	
alr3614KO-1	<u>GGTCATTTTTTTGTCTAGCTTTAATGCGGTAGTTG</u> <u>GTACCGGTTAAGAGAATATCCTGCC</u>	5' homology arm for <i>cvkR</i> knock out
alr3614KO-2	CAGGCGATCGCGTGGGTAATTACTATAACTCCTT TCTCTC	
alr3614KO-3	GAGAGAAAGGAGTTATAGTAATTACCCACGCGAT CGCCTG	3' homology arm for <i>cvkR</i> knock out
alr3614KO-4	GCGCTGCCCGGATTACAGATCCTCTAGAGTCGA CGGTACCAAATCTTCGATGCAGATGA	
alr3614-3	GACGACTATCGCAGTAACTTC	Genotype confirmation
alr3614-4	TTAGCTGCTTTACTACGACG	
<i>alr3614</i> complementation strain ($\Delta cvkR$Com) construction		
59M-F	GATTATAAAGATCATGATGGTGATTATAAAGATCAT GATATTGATTATAAAGATGATGATGATAAATGAAAG GGTGGGCGCGCCGACCCAG	Amplification of pRL59EH-Cm/Em backbone with overlap to 3xFlag tag
59M-R1	GTTAATTTACAGGCTTTAGGTGACCTGCATCC CTTAAC	Amplification of pRL59EH-Cm/Em backbone with overlap to P_{petE}
P_{petE} -F	GTTAAGGGATGCAGGTGACCTAAAGCCTGTGA AATTAAC	With overlap to pRL59EH-Cm/Em backbone
P_{petE} -R4	CACATTAGTGCTTTGTATAACATTTATTTTCATTTTA AATAAAATCGACACC	$P_{petE_no5'UTR-cvkR-L-3xFlag}$
P_{petE} -R5	GCTTGTGTAGAACTTTCTTCCATTTATTTTCATTT TAAATAAAATCGACACC	$P_{petE_no5'UTR-cvkR-S-3xFlag}$
P_{petE} -R6	GTGTAGAACTTTCTTCCATGGCGTTCTCCTAAC CTGTAG	$P_{petE-cvkR-S-3xFlag}$
3614L-F	GGTGTGCGATTTTATTTAAAATGAAATAAATGTTATA CAAAGCACTAATGTG	$P_{petE_no5'UTR-cvkR-L-3xFlag}$
3614S-F1	CGATTTTATTTAAAATGAAATAAATGGAAGGAAAG TTCTACACAAGC	$P_{petE_no5'UTR-cvkR-S-3xFlag}$
3614S-F2	CTACAGGTTAGGAGAACGCCATGGAAGGAAAGT TCTACAC	$P_{petE-cvkR-S-3xFlag}$
3614-R	TCATTTATCATCATCATCTTTATAATCAATATCATGA TCTTTATAATCACCATCATGATCTTTATAATCGCTA CTAAAGCTTTTAAGATTC	Amplification of <i>cvkR</i> -3xFlag with overlap to pRL59EH-Cm/Em backbone
3614TesT-F	GCCGCCAGTTGCAGTATT	Genotype confirmation
3614TesT-R	CGGGCAAGTACGACATCA	
qRT-PCR		
alr3614 RT-F	GTGGCAAAGGTCGTAATGTT	qRT-PCR of <i>cvkR</i>
alr3614 RT-R	CGCTTCATCTTTTCTTCTGGG	
rnpB RT-F	CGTGAGGATAGTGCCACAGA	Internal standard
rnpB RT-R	CCAACCATAGTTCCTTCGGC	
Northern hybridizations		
CR_9_fwd	TTTGAATATTCAGAACTTTATATTGTGCGCGAT	as published ¹³ , for mutant analysis

CR_9_rev	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGGCAAGCTGATTTG GTAGAAGCTGTTAAT	for mutant analysis
all3613-Nblot1	GGAGTAAGCTTGGGGCTAGAA	
all3613-Nblot2	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGGCCTGCTTTATAGG TCTGTGC	for mutant analysis
tracrRNA_Fw_T 7_1	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGCTCTTTGGTGCGTC AAATCAAG	for mutant analysis
tracrRNA_Rev	CAGTTCATGCTGCTTGCAGC	
Alr3614_Nblot_f	GCACAGAAGCATCAGAAATTAC	
Alr3614_Nblot_r	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGACAGCAACTGC TCCATTAC	for mutant analysis
5S_7120	TAGCAGCGTTTCACCTCTGAGTTCCGG	as published ¹³
TXTL assay		
pet28a_HisTEV _fwd	CTCGAGCACCACCACCAC	Amplification of pET-28a(+) with 6xHis tag and TEV site
pet28a_HisTEV _rev	GGATCCCATATGCTGAAAATACAGG	
3614mut_fwd	ATTTTCAGCATATGGGATCCATGGAAGGAAAGTT CTACAC	Amplification of <i>cvkR</i> mut with overlaps to pET-28a(+)
3614mut_rev	TGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTCTCGAGTTAGCTACTAAAG CTTTTAAGATTC	
p70a- deGFP_fwd	GCTAGCAATAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAG ATATACC	Amplification of p70a with deGFP and 5'UTR but without promoter
p70a- deGFP_rev	GCATGCCCAGCGGAACAG	
P3613_fwd	TGCTGTTCCGCTGGGCATGCAAGAAACATCCTA TAGAAGC	Amplification of the <i>all3613</i> promoter with overlaps to p70a
P3613_rev	TAAACAAAATTATTGCTAGCAAAAATAAAATACCA TACAAAACAC	
P3614_fwd	TGCTGTTCCGCTGGGCATGCAAAAATAAAATAC CATACAAAACAC	Amplification of the <i>alr3614</i> promoter with overlaps to p70a
P3614_rev	TAAACAAAATTATTGCTAGCAAGAAACATCCTAT AGAAGC	
P43_fwd	TGCTTTGTATAACATTATGTGTTTTGTATGGTATT TTATTTTGTAGCAATAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAA GAAGGAGATATACC	Amplification of p70a with deGFP under control of a shorter version of the <i>all3613</i> promoter
P43_rev	AAAATAAAAATACCATACAAAACACATAATGTTAT ACAAAGCAGCATGCCCGCGGAACAG	
Ptracr_fwd	TGCTGTTCCGCTGGGCATGCCCGCAGGATAAAGC AAAAG	Amplification of p70a with deGFP under control of the tracrRNA promoter
Ptracr_rev	TAAACAAAATTATTGCTAGCTATTACATATTATAT TTTCAAGGTTTCAG	
PpsbAI_TXTL_f wd	TGCTGTTCCGCTGGGCATGCAAGGATTCCCAA GATAGG	Amplification of p70a with deGFP under control of the <i>psbAI</i> promoter
PpsbAI_TXTL_r ev	TAAACAAAATTATTGCTAGCCTCATAAAAATTTACA TGA	
P3630_TXTL_fw d	TGCTGTTCCGCTGGGCATGCGTCGCTTCAGTAA TTACAAAAAAG	Amplification of p70a with deGFP under control of the <i>all3630</i> promoter
P3630_TXTL_re v	TAAACAAAATTATTGCTAGCAATTTATAAATACAT AATGTTATTCTAAACG	
Alr3614S protein heterologous expression		
3614S-BamHI-F	CGGGATCCATGTTATACAAAGCACTAATGTG	Producing 3614S-pET-28a(+)-smt3
3614S- <i>taa</i> -XhoI- R	CCGCTCGAGTTAGCTACTAAAGCTTTTAAGATTC TC	
Promoter fragments for TXTL assay		

<i>P_{cas12k}</i>	AAGAAACATCCTATAGAAGCATCTTCTAAACACA TTAGTGCTTTGTATAACATTATGTGTTTTGTATGGT ATTTTATTTTT	TXTL
<i>P_{tracr}</i>	CGCAGGATAAAGCAAAGAATTAGCCCTCTATGC TTATAGTCTCCGCCTAGCTAGGCGAAGTTGACAA ACATCTGAACCTTGAAAATATAATATGTAATA	TXTL
<i>P_{cvkR}</i>	AAAAATAAAATACCATACAAAACACATAATGTTATA CAAAGCACTAATGTGTTTTAGAAGATGCTTCTATA GGATGTTTCTT	TXTL
P43	TGCTTTGTATAACATTATGTGTTTTGTATGGTATTT TATTTTT	TXTL
<i>P_{psbA1}</i>	CAAGGATTCCTCAAAGATAGGGGGAATAATTAACA TTAAGAATTATTAATTCATGGGTTTTTAGTCTAGTA AATTTGCGTGAATTCATGTAAATTTTATGAG	TXTL
<i>P_{tnsB}</i>	GTCGCTTCAGTAATTACAAAAAAGGTTTTGTATAT TTTCATAATGACAAATTGACTGTCGTTTTCTCCAC GTTTAGAATAACATTATGTATTTATAAATT	TXTL
DNase I footprinting		
P3613-F(FAM)	AACTCCTTTCTCTCGCCAATAC	Producing FAM-labeled probes
P3613-R	GCTGCTGAAGCAGTTCGTT	
M13F(FAM)	CCCAGTCACGACGTTGTAAAACG	Producing FAM-labeled probes
M13R	AGCGGATAACAATTCACACAGG	
CvkR protein mutant construction		
CvkRMut-F	GGTGGTCATATGGGATCCATGGAAGGAAAGTTCT ACAC	CvkRmut mutant
CvkRMut-R	CGTTTAGAGGCCCAAGGGTATGCTAGTTATT GCTCAG	
pET28a-sumo-F	GAGCAATAACTAGCATAACCCCTTGGGGCCTCTA AACGGG	
pET28a-sumo-R	GTAGAACTTTCCTTCCATGGATCCCATATGACCA CCAA	
R42E-F	TTAACAGTAGTGCCAAAGGTGAAAATGTTTACT	R42E mutant
R42E-R	AGTAAACATTTTCACCTTTGCCACTACTGTAA	
S134C-F	AAACTGTGATTCTTTTTTGGTGCGATCGCATTCA TCAACAA	S134C mutant
S134C-R	GCACCAAAAAGGAATCACAGTTTGTCCATGAC	

Supplementary Table 4. Data collection and refinement statistics.

	SeMet CvkR	Native CvkR
Data collection		
Space group	C121	C121
Cell dimensions <i>a, b, c</i> (Å)	78.813, 49.778, 41.017	78.579, 49.703, 40.52
α, β, γ (°)	90, 116.38, 90	90, 116.044, 90
Resolution (Å)	24.90-1.93 (2.03- 1.93)	50.00-1.60 (1.66- 1.60)
R_{sym} or R_{merge}	0.054(0.25)	0.054(0.441)
$I / \sigma I$	14.6 (3.8)	32.1 (2.93)
Completeness (%)	94 (84.4)	99.8 (99.2)
Redundancy	3.2 (3.1)	2.5 (2.6)
Refinement		
Resolution (Å)		1.6
No. reflections		18599
$R_{\text{work}} / R_{\text{free}}$		0.194/0.217
No. atoms		
Protein		1199
Ligand/ion		38
Water		92
<i>B</i> -factors		
Protein		45.39
Ligand/ion		45.50
Water		51.62
R.m.s. deviations		
Bond lengths (Å)		0.01
Bond angles (°)		1.29

Values in parentheses are for highest-resolution shell.

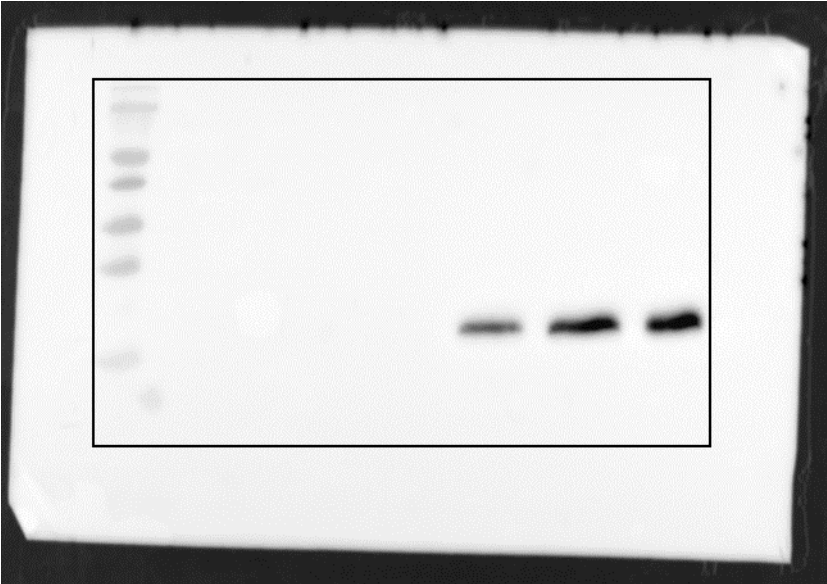
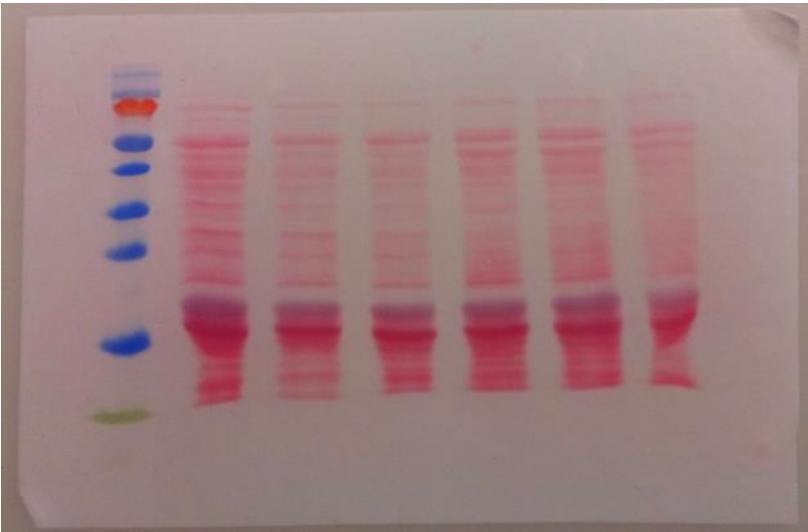
Supplementary References

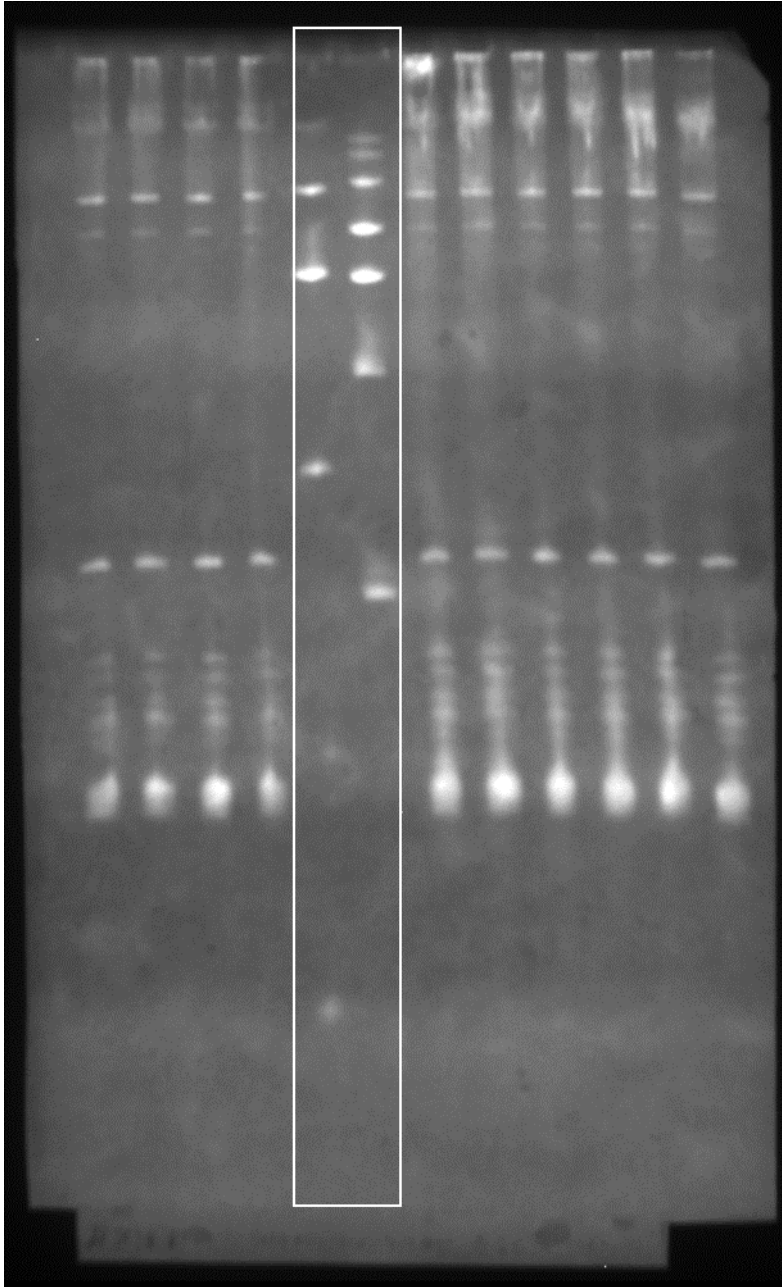
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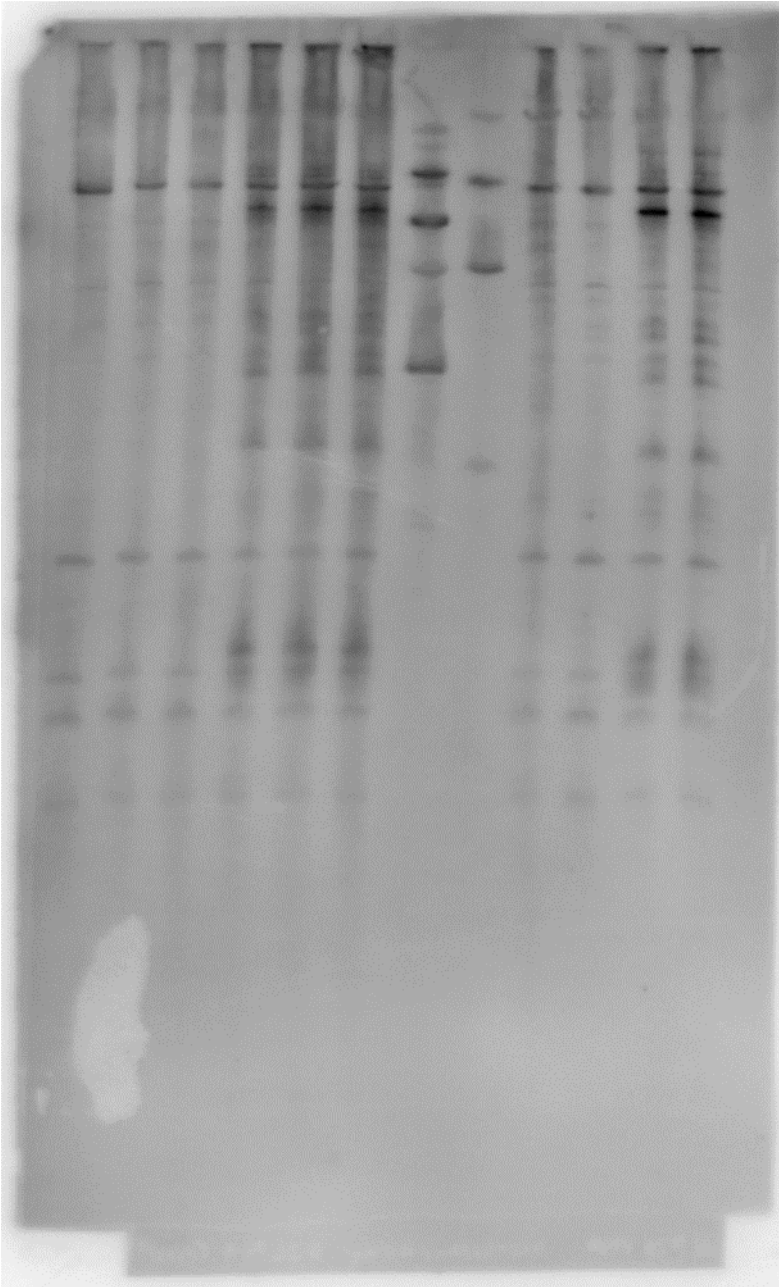
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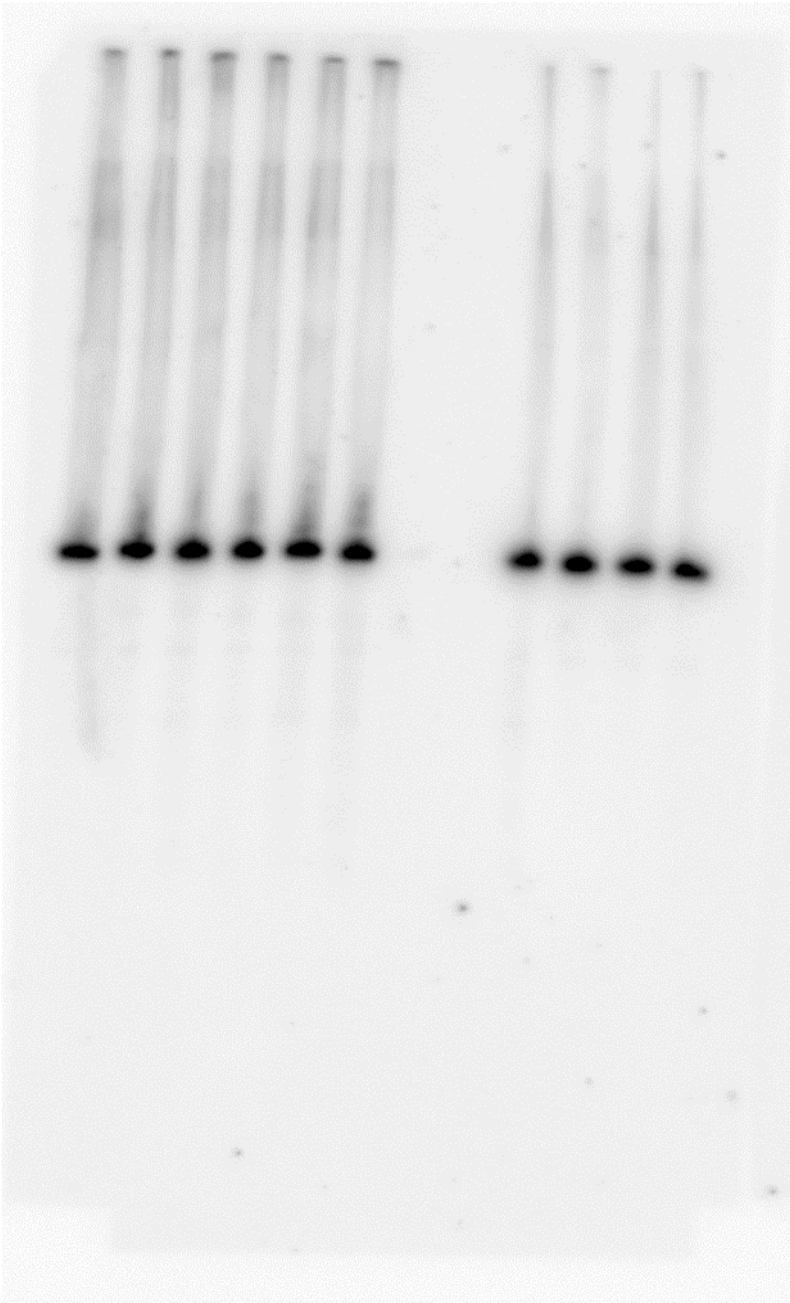
Uncropped scans of blots and gels in Supplementary Figures

Supplementary Figure 5.

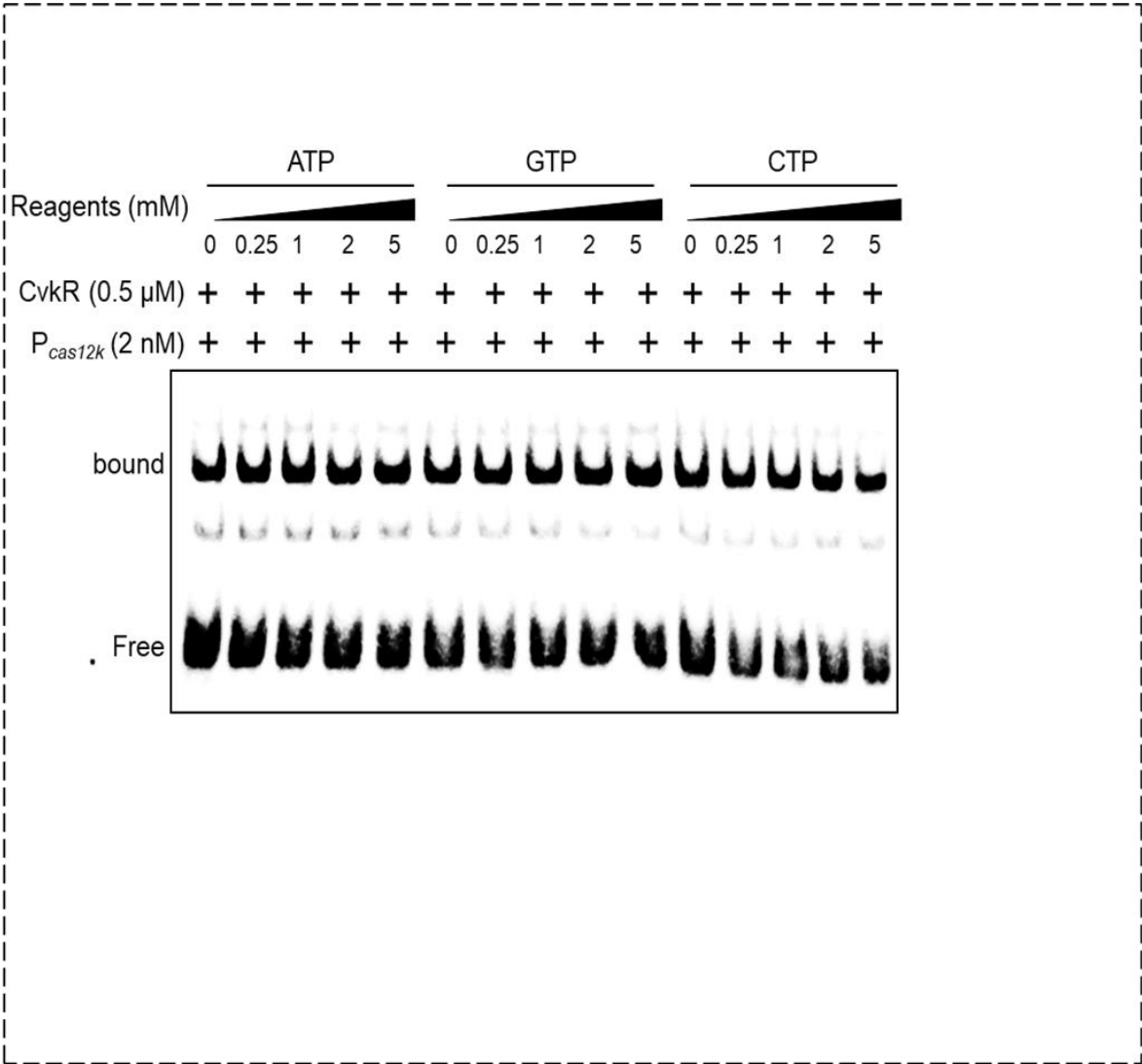


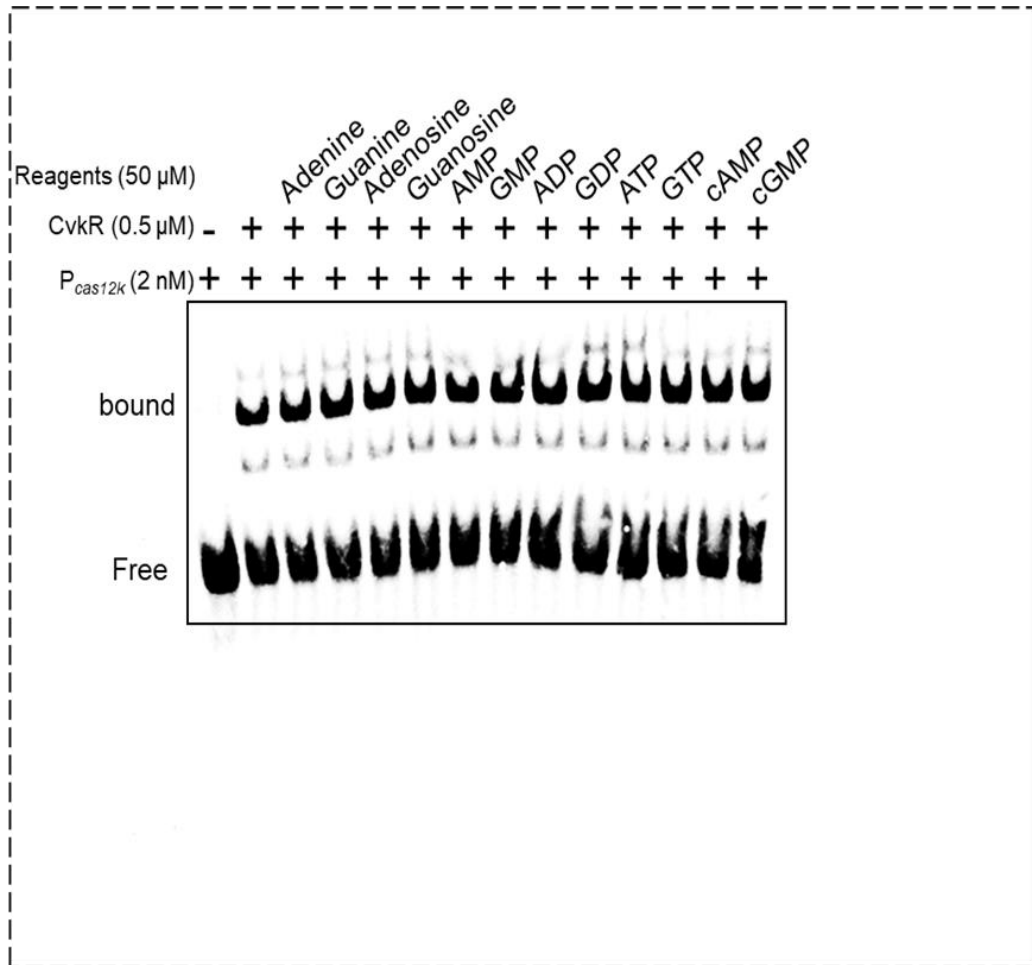


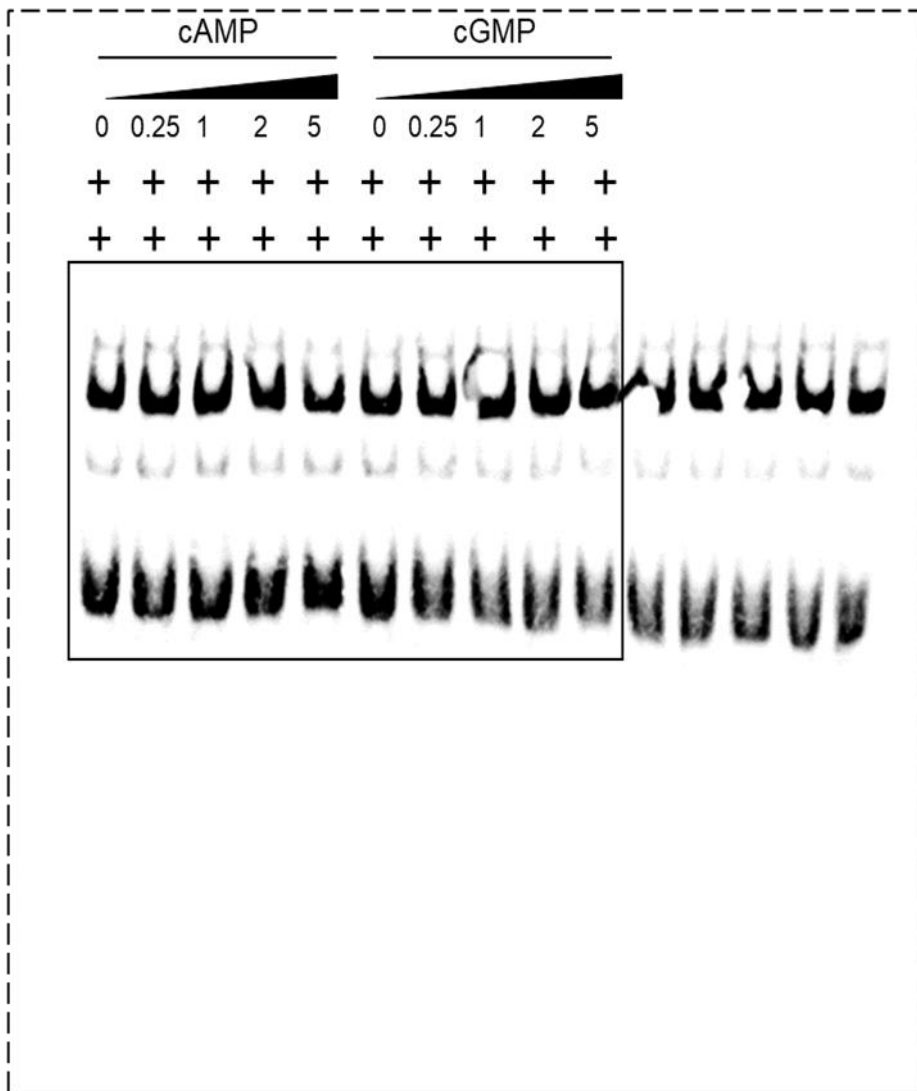




Supplementary Figure 10.







Supplementary Figure 12.

