
Dr Arvind Varsani

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EDUCATION

- 1998 - 2003 University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa**
Degree course: **PhD in Molecular and Cell Biology**
Thesis title: **Development of candidate *Human papillomavirus* vaccines**
I investigated deleted and mutated gene products of the HPV-16 major capsid protein gene towards expressing candidate HPV vaccines in plants, with the final aim being the design and analysis of novel chimaeric HPV vaccines.
- 1993 - 1997 Loughborough University, Loughborough, England**
Degree Course: **Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Chemistry (BSc, DIS)**

WORK EXPERIENCE

07/16 – current Arizona State University, Tempe, USA

Professor (05/23 – current; 07/16 – 05/23 Associate professor) in the Biodesign Center of Fundamental and Applied Microbiomics and the School of Life Sciences. I hold adjunct positions in the Biodesign Center for Molecular Evolution and the Center of Evolution and Medicine. I teach both undergraduate and postgraduate courses and run an active research group focused on virus evolution and virus discovery.

02/09 – 07/16 University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand

Senior lecturer above bar (Assoc. Prof equivalent in USA) in molecular biology / virology.

I taught virology, general molecular and microbiology to 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year students and ran an active research program in DNA virus discovery and evolution.

07/03 – 09/08 University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa

Lecturer for the Masters program in Structural Biology at the University of Cape Town. Funded (5 years) by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, this was the first structural biology initiative in Africa. I lectured on basic molecular biology, protein expression and purification, virus structure, aspects of structural bioinformatics, molecular visualisation and cryo-electron microscopy. In addition to this I provided molecular biology support for most of the projects undertaken by the students as part of their MSc projects.

1995 - 1996 Astra Charnwood (Astra Zeneca Pharmaceuticals), Loughborough, England

I worked as a pre-formulation research scientist in the pharmaceutical sciences department. My work mainly involved taste masking of a research compound using various ion-exchange resins and alternative salt forms. All analysis was done using HPLC, UV spectrophotometry and IR spectrophotometry in compliance with company GLP and SOPs. In addition to this, I did a fair amount of thermal degradation work using TGA, DSC, and hot stage microscopy.

ADJUNT PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2009 – current: Honorary research associate**, Structural Biology Research Unit, University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2014 – 2017: Courtesy research professor**, Department of Plant Pathology and the Emerging Pathogens Institute, University of Florida, Gainesville, USA
- 2016 – 2019: Adjunct Associate professor**, School of Biological Sciences, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand

AWARDS AND PRIZES (ACADEMIC)

2008: Patent incentive award from the South African Department of Science and Technology

2007: Patent incentive award from the South African Department of Science and Technology

RESEARCH

I work across ecosystems, from plants to animals, and from the tropics to the Antarctic with a strong focus on viral evolution and dynamics, and viral metagenomics. My research uses a combination of traditional virology, microscopy (including transmission electron microscopy), molecular and cellular biology techniques in conjunction with modern techniques including high throughput sequencing, synthetic biology and bioinformatics.

PUBLICATIONS

H-Index: 79; i10-index: 287

1. Bando, RA, Kraberger S, **Varsani A.** 2024. *Two novel geminiviruses identified in bees (Apis mellifera and Nomia sp.).* Viruses. 16: 602
2. Faleyel TOC, Driver EM, Wright JM, Halden RU, **Varsani A,** Scotch M. 2024. *Direct detection of canine picornavirus complete coding sequence in wastewater using long-range reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction and long-read sequencing.* Infect Genet Evol. 118: 105550
3. Hess SC, Weiss KCB, Custer JM, Lewis JS, Kraberger S, **Varsani A.** 2024. *Identification of small circular DNA viruses in coyote fecal samples from Arizona.* Arch Virol. 169:12
4. Morandini V, Dugger K, Schmidt A, **Varsani A,** Lescroël A, Ballard G, Lyver P, Barton K, Ainley D. 2024. *Sex-specific recruitment rates contribute to male-biased sex ratio in Adélie penguins.* Ecology and Evolution. 14:e10859
5. Moubset O, Filloux D, Fontes H, Julian C, Fernandez E, Galzi S, Blondin L, Ben Chehida S, Lett J-M, Mesleard M, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Salywon A, Makings E, Marais A, Chiroleu F, Lefeuvre P, Martin DP, Candresse T, **Varsani A,** Ravigné A, Roumagnac P. 2024. *Virome release of an invasive exotic plant species in southern France.* Virus Evol. 10, veae025
6. Olivo D, Khalifeh A, Custer JM, Kraberger S, **Varsani A.** 2024. *Diverse small circular DNA viruses identified in an American wigeon fecal sample.* Microorganisms. 12: 196
7. Olivo D, Kraberger S, **Varsani A.** 2024. *New duck papillomavirus type identified in a mallard from Missouri, USA.* Arch Virol. 167: 77
8. Paietta EN, Kraberger S, Regney M, Custer JM, Ehmke E, Yoder AD, **Varsani A.** 2024. *Interspecies papillomavirus type infection and a novel papillomavirus type in red-ruffed lemurs (Varecia rubra).* Viruses. 16:37
9. Regney M, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Crane AE, Shero MR, Beltran RS, Kirkham AL, Van Doorslaer K, Stone AC, Goebel ME, Burns JM, **Varsani A.** 2024. *Diverse papillomavirus identified from Antarctic fur seals, leopard seals and Weddell seals from the Antarctic.* Virology. 594: 110064
10. Abrantes J, **Varsani A,** Pereira P, Moura T, Verissimo A, Neves F. 2023. *Identification and characterization of a polyomavirus in the Thornback skate (Raja clavata).* Virol J. 20: 190
11. Adriaenssens EM, Roux S, Brister JR, Karsch-Mizrachi I, Kuhn JH, **Varsani A,** Yigang T, Reyes A, Lood C, Lefkowitz E, Sullivan MB, Edwards RA, Simmonds P, Rubino L, Sabanadzovic S, Krupovic M, Dutilh BE. 2023. *Classification of uncultivated viruses: Updated standards and guidelines for the submission of uncultivated virus genome sequences to the International Nucleotide Sequence Database Collaboration (INSDC).* Nature Biotech. 41: 898-902
12. Bowes DA, Driver EM, Kraberger S, Fontenele RS, Holland LA, Wright J, Johnston B, Savic S, Engstrom Newell M, Adhikari S, Kumar R, Goetz H, Binsfeld A, Nessi K, Watkins P, Mahant A, Zevitz J, Deitrick S, Brown P, Dalton R, Garcia C, Inchausti R, Holmes W, Tian X-J, **Varsani A,** Lim ES, Scotch M, Halden RU. 2023. *Leveraging an established neighbourhood-level, open access wastewater monitoring network to address public health priorities: a population-based study.* Lancet Microbe. 4: e29-37
13. Bowes DA, Henke KB, Driver EM, Newell ME, Block I, Shaffer G, **Varsani A,** Scotch M, Halden R. 2023. *Enhanced detection of mpox virus in wastewater using a pre-amplification approach: A pilot study informing population-level monitoring of low-titer pathogens.* Sci Total Environ. 903: 166230
14. Butkovic A, Kraberger S, Smeele Z, Martin DP, Schmidlin K, Fontenele RS, Shero MR, Beltran RS, Kirkham AL, Aleamotu'a M, Burns JM, Koonin EV, **Varsani A,** Krupovic M. 2023. *Evolution of anelloviruses from a circovirus-like ancestor through gradual augmentation of the jelly-roll capsid protein.* Virus Evol. 9: vead035

15. Chapman AR, Wright JA, Kaiser NA, Jones PM, Driver EM, Halden RU, **Varsani A**, Scotch M, Faleyeh TOC. **2023**. *Rhizobium Phage-Like Microvirus Genome Sequence Identified in Wastewater in Arizona, USA, in November 2020 Encodes an Endolysin and a Putative Multiheme Cytochrome c-like Protein*. Microbiol Res Announc. 12: e000692
16. Cerna GM, Serieys LEK, Riley SPD, Richet C, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Circovirus and cycloviruses identified in feces of bobcats (*Lynx rufus*) in California*. Arch Virol. 168: 23
17. Claverie S, Hoareau M, Chéhida SB, Filloux D, **Varsani A**, Roumagnac P, Martin DP, Lett J-M, Lefevre P. **2023**. *Metagenomics reveals the structure of Mastrevirus-host interaction network within an agro-ecosystem*. Virus Evol. 8: vead043
18. Collins PP, Broad RC, Yogeewaran, K, **Varsani A**, Poole AM, Collings C. **2023**. *Characterisation of the Nuclear Pore-Anchoring Proteins GP210 and NDC1 in Arabidopsis thaliana*. Plant Science 332: 111719
19. Dewar M, Wille M, Gamble A, Vanstreels RET, Bouliner T, Smith A, **Varsani A**, Ratcliffe N, Black J, Lynnes A, Barbosa A, Hart T. **2023**. *The risk of highly pathogenic avian influenza in the Southern Ocean: a practical guide for operators and scientists interacting with wildlife*. Antarctic Science. 2023: 35(6),407–414
20. Esmaili M, Heydarnejad J, Hasanvand V, Massumi H, Kvarnheden A, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Genome characterization of Iranian sophora yellow stunt virus isolates and construction of infectious clones*. Plant Path. 72:1283–1292
21. Faleyeh TOC, Driver EM, Bowes DA, Smith A, Kaiser NA, Wright JM, Chapman AR, Halden RU, **Varsani A**, Scotch M. **2023**. *Canine Parvovirus 2C identified in dog feces from poop bags collected from outdoor waste bins in Arizona USA, June 2022*. Transboundary and Emerging Diseases. 2023: 5596886
22. Faleyeh TOC, Elyaderani A, Skidmore P, Adhikari S, Smith A, Kaiser N, Sandrolini H, Finnerty S, Halden RU, **Varsani A**, Scotch M. **2023**. *Surveillance of rhinovirus diversity among a university community identifies multiple types from all three species including an unassigned rhinovirus A genotype*. Influenza Other Respir Viruses. 17: e13057
23. Fontenele RS, Yang Y, Driver EM, Magge A, Kraberger S; Custer JM, Dufault-Thompson K, Cox E, Newell ME, **Varsani A**, Halden RU, Scotch, M Jiang X. **2023**. *Wastewater surveillance uncovers regional diversity and dynamics of SARS-CoV-2 variants across nine states in the USA*. Sci Tot. Envi. 877: 162862
24. Fritz M, Reggiardo B, Filloux D, Claude L, Fernandez E, Mahé F, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Becquart P, Mebaley TN, Kombila LB, Lenguiya LH, Boundenga L, Mombo IM, Maganga GD, Niama FR, Koumba J-S, Ogliaastro M, Yvon M, Martin DP, Blanc S, **Varsani A**, Leroy E, Roumagnac P. **2023**. *African army ants at the forefront of virome surveillance in a remote tropical forest*. Peer Community Journal. 2: e24
25. Happel A-U, Balle C, Havyarimana E, Brown B, Maust BS, Feng C, Yi BH, Gill K, Bekker L-G, Passmore J-AS, Jaspan HB, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Cervicovaginal human papillomavirus genomes, microbiota composition and cytokine concentrations in South African adolescents*. Viruses. 15: 758
26. Harding C, Larsen BB, Otto HW, Potticary AL, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Suazo C, Upham NS, Worobey M, Van Doorslaer K, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Diverse DNA virus genomes identified in fecal samples of Mexican free-tailed bats (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) captured in Chiricahua Mountains of southeast Arizona (USA)*. Virology. 580: 98-111
27. Jimoha AO, Balle C, Brown B, Feng C, Havyarimana E, Konstantinus IN, Gill K, Bekker L-G, Passmore JS, **Varsani A**, Jaspan HB, Happel A-U. **2023**. *Genome Sequences of Anelloviruses, Genomovirus, Microviruses, Polyomaviruses, and a Bacteriophage Identified in Vaginal Secretions of South African Adolescents*. Microbiol Res Announc. 12: 01143-22
28. Kraberger S, Serieys LEK, Riley SPD, Schmidlin K, Newkirk ES, Squires JR, Buck CB, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Novel polyomaviruses identified in fecal samples from four carnivore species*. Arch. Virol. 168: 18
29. Lopez JKM, Austin C, Farkas K, Kraberger S, Davison W, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Diverse microvirus genomes identified in the stomach of a sharp-spined notothen (*Trematomus pennellii*) from the Ross Sea (East Antarctica)*. Microbiol Res Announc. 12: e01233-22
30. Lund MC, Larsen BB, Rowsey DM, Otto HW, Gryseels S, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Steger L, Yule KM, Harris RE, Worobey M, Van Doorslaer K, Upham NS, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Using archived and biocollection samples towards deciphering the DNA virus diversity associated with rodent species in the families Cricetidae and Heteromyidae*. Virology. 585:42-60
31. Ndela EO, Roux S, Henke C, Sczyrba A, Ngando TS, **Varsani A**, Enault F. **2023**. *Reekeek- and roodoodooviruses, two different Microviridae clades constituted by the smallest DNA phages*. Virus Evolution. 8: 1-7
32. Paietta EN, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Vargas KL, Van Doorslaer K, Yoder AD, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Identification of diverse papillomaviruses in captive black-and-white ruffed lemurs (*Varecia variegata*)*. Arch. Virol. 168: 13
33. Paietta EN, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Vargas KL, Espy C, Ehmke E, Yoder AD, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Characterization of diverse anelloviruses, cressdnaviruses, and bacteriophages in the human oral virome from North Carolina (USA)*. Viruses. 15: 1821
34. Payne N, Combrink L, Kraberger S, Fontenele RS, Schmidlin K, Cassaigne I, Culver M, **Varsani A**, Van Doorslaer K. **2023**. *DNA virome composition of two sympatric wild felids, bobcat (*Lynx rufus*) and puma (*Puma concolor*) in Sonora, Mexico*. Front. Ecol. Evol. 11: 1126149

35. Salari K, Heydarnejad J, Massumi H, Hasanvand V, **Varsani A. 2023.** *Incidence of cotton leaf curl Gezira virus and the associated alphsatellites and betasatellites in crops and ornamental plants in southern Iran.* *Tropical Plant Pathology.* 48: 62-72
36. Shick SRA, Elrod ML, Schmidt A, Kraberger S, Ainley DG, Ballard G, **Varsani A. 2023.** *Genomes of single stranded DNA viruses in a fecal sample of south polar skua (*Stercorarius maccormicki*) on Ross Island, Antarctica.* *Microbiol Res Announc.* 12: e0029923
37. Siddell SG, Smith DB, Adriaenssens E, Alfenas-Zerbini P, Dutilh BE, Garcia ML, Junglen S, Krupovic M, Kuhn JH, Lambert AJ, Lefkowitz EJ, Łobocka M, Mushegian AR, Oksanen HM, Robertson DL, Rubino L, Sabanadzovic S, Simmonds P, Suzuki N, Van Doorslaer K, Vandamme A-M, **Varsani A, Zerbini FM. 2023.** *Virus taxonomy and the role of the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV).* *J Gen Vir.* 104: 001840
38. Simmonds P, Adriaenssens E, Zerbini EF, Abrescia NGA, Aiewsakun P, Alfenas-Zerbini P, Bao Y, Baryliski Y, Drosten C, Duffy S, Duprex P, Dutilh BE, Elena S, Garcia ML, Junglen S, Katzourakis A, Koonin EV, Krupovic M, Kuhn JH, Lambert AJ, Lefkowitz EJ, Łobocka M, Lood C, Mahony J, Meier-Kolthoff J, Mushegian AR, Oksanen HM, Poranen M, Muñoz AR, Robertson DL, Roux S, Rubino L, Sabanadzovic S, Siddell S, Skern T, Smith DB, Sullivan MB, Suzuki N, Turner D, Van Doorslaer K, Vandamme A-M, **Varsani A, Vasilakis N. 2023.** *Towards a universal virus taxonomy.* *PLoS Biol.* 21: e3001922
39. Vargas KL, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Paiett EN, Culver M, Munguia-Vega A, Dolby GA, **Varsani A. 2023.** *Identification of novel polyomavirus in wild Sonoran Desert rodents of the family Heteromyidae.* *Arch Virol.* 168: 253
40. **Varsani A, Kraberger S, Opriessnig T, Maggi F, Celer V, Okamoto H, Biagini P. 2023.** *Anelloviridae taxonomy update 2023.* *Arch Virol.* 168:277
41. Vidal AH, Lacorte C, Sanches MM, Alves-Freitas DMT, Abreu EFM, Pinheiro-Lima B, Carriello Rosa RC, Jesus ON, Campos MA, Felix GP, Abreu ACR, de Santos YSS, Lacerda ALM, **Varsani A, Melo FL, Ribeiro SG. 2023.** *Characterization of cucurbit aphid-borne yellows virus (CABYV) from passion fruit in Brazil: Evidence of a complex of species within CABYV isolates.* *Viruses.* 15: e410
42. Vidal AH, Felix GP, Abreu EFM, Pinheiro-Lima B, Vianna MJX, Nogueira I, Abreu ACR, Sanches MM, Santos-Jiménez JL, Rosa RCC, Vaslin MFS, Faleiro FG, Lacorte C, Melo FL, **Varsani A, Ribeiro1 SG. 2023.** *Occurrence of bean-associated cytorhabdovirus and cowpea mild mottle virus infecting cultivated and wild *Passiflora* spp. in Brazil.* *Crop Prot.* 168: 106236
43. Zhang L, Li Y, Kibler K, Kraberger S, **Varsani A, Turk J, Elmadbouly N, Aliskevich E, Spaccarelli L, Estifanos B, Enow J, Zanetti IR, Saldevar N, Lim E, Schlievert J, Browder K, Wilson A, Juan FA, Pinteric A, Garg A, Monder H, Saju R, Gisriel S, Jacobs B, Karr TL, Florsheim EB, Kumar V, Wallen J, Rahman M, McFadden G, Hogue BG, Lucas AR. 2023.** *Viral anti-inflammatory serpin reduces immuno-coagulopathic pathology in SARS-CoV-2 mouse models of infection.* *EMBO Molecular Medicine.* 15: e1737
44. Zerbini FM, Siddell SG, Lefkowitz EJ, Mushegian AR, Adriaenssens EM, Alfenas-Zerbini P, Dempsey DM, Dutilh BE, Garcia ML, Hendrickson RC, Junglen S, Krupovic M, Kuhn JH, Lambert AJ, Łobocka M, Oksanen HM, Robertson DL, Rubino L, Sabanadzovic S, Simmonds P, Smith DB, Suzuki N, Van Doorslaer K, Vandamme AM, **Varsani A (2023)** *Changes to virus taxonomy and the ICTV Statutes ratified by the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (2023).* *Archives of Virology* 168:175
45. Águeda-Pinto A, Kraberger S, Gutierrez-Jensen A, Gleen HL, Dalton KP, Podaderae A, Parrae F, **Varsani A, McFadden G, Rahman MR, Esteves PJ. 2022.** *Identification of a novel Myxoma C7-like host range factor that enabled a species leap from rabbits to hares.* *mBio.* 13: e0346121
46. Collins CL, Kraberger S, Fontenele RS, Faleye TOC, Adams D, Adhikari S, Sandrolini H, Finnerty S, Halden RU, Scotch M, **Varsani A. 2022.** *Genome sequences of anelloviruses, genomovirus and papillomavirus from nasal pharyngeal swabs.* *Microbiol Res Announc.* 11: e00681-22
47. Collins CL, Faleye TOC, Kraberger S, Fontenele RS, Adams D, Adhikari S, Sandrolini H, Finnerty S, Halden RU, Scotch M, **Varsani A. 2022.** *Complete coding sequence of rhinovirus types A46, A39, C56 and C48.* *Microbiol Res Announc.* 11: e00680-22
48. Custer JM, White R, Taylor H, Schmidlin K, Fontenele RS, Stainton D, Kraberger S, Briskie JV, **Varsani A. 2022.** *Diverse single-stranded DNA viruses identified in New Zealand (*Aotearoa*) South Island robin (*Petroica australis*) fecal samples.* *Virol.* 565: 38-51
49. Desvignes T, Lauridsen H, Valdivieso A, Fontenele RS, Kraberger S, Murray KN, Le François NR, Detrich HW, Kent MK, **Varsani A, Postlethwait JH. 2022.** *A parasite outbreak in notothenioid fish in an Antarctic fjord.* *iScience.* 25: 104588
50. Faleye TO, Driver EM, Bowes DA, Holm RH, Talley D, Yeager R, Bhatnagar A, Smith T, **Varsani A, Halden RU, Scotch M. 2022.** *Detection of human, porcine and canine picornaviruses in municipal sewage sludge using pan-enterovirus amplicon-based long-read Illumina sequencing.* *Emerg Microbes Infect.* 11: 1339-1342
51. Faleye TOC, Skidmore PT, Elyaderani A, Smith A, Kaiser N, Adhikari S, Yanez A, Perleberg T, Driver EM, Halden RU, **Varsani A, Scotch M. 2022.** *Canine picornaviruses detected in Wastewater in Arizona, USA 2019 and 2021.* *Infect Genet Evol.* 103: e105315

52. Happel A-U, Kullin BR, Gamielien H, Jaspan H, **Varsani A**, Martin DP, Passmore J-A, Froissart R. **2022**. *In silico characterisation of putative prophages in Lactobacillaceae used in probiotics for vaginal health*. Microorganisms. 10: 214
53. Harding C, Larsen BB, Gryseels S, Otto HW, Suazo C, Kraberger S, Upham NS, Worobey M, Van Doorslaer K, **Varsani A**. **2022**. *Discovery of three cycloviruses in fecal samples of silver-haired bats (Lasionycteris noctivagans) from Arizona (USA)*. Arch Virol. 167: 2771-2775
54. Kamdi I, Soltani R, Baraket G, **Varsani A**, Najar A. **2022**. *First report of apple hammerhead viroid infecting 'Richared Delicious' apple (Malus domestica) in Tunisia*. J Plant Path. 104: 811-812
55. Ketsela D, Oyeniran KA, Bekele B, Fontenele RS, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**. **2022**. *Molecular identification and phylogenetic characterization of new A-strain isolates of Maize streak virus from western Ethiopia*. Arch Virol. 167: 2753-2759
56. King K, Larsen BB, Gryseels S, Richet C, Kraberger S, Jackson R, Worobey M, Harrison JS, **Varsani A**, Van Doorslaer K. **2022**. *Coevolutionary analysis implicates toll-like receptor 9 in papillomavirus restriction*. mBio. 13: e0005422
57. Kraberger S, Oswald SA, Arnold JM, Schmidlin K, Custer JM, Levi G, Benkő M, Harrach B, **Varsani A**. **2022**. *Novel adenovirus associated with common tern (Sterna hirundo) chicks*. Arch Virol. 167: 659-663
58. Kraberger S, Austin C, Farkas K, Desvignes T, Postlethwait JH, Fontenele RS, Schmidlin K, Bradley RW, Warzybok P, Van Doorslaer K, Davison W, Buck CB, **Varsani A**. **2022**. *Discovery of novel fish papillomaviruses: From the Antarctic to the commercial fish market*. Virol. 565: 65-72
59. Krupovic M, **Varsani A**. **2022**. *Naryaviridae, Nenyaviridae and Vilyaviridae: Three new families of single-stranded DNA viruses in the phylum Cressdnviricota*. Arch Virol. 167: 2907-2921
60. Lopez JKM, Aleamotu'a M, Kami V, Stainton D, Lund MC, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**. **2022**. *Genomes of bacteriophages belonging to the order Caudovirales and Petitiyvirales identified in the fecal samples of Pacific flying fox (Pteropus tonganus) from the Kingdom of Tonga*. Microbiol Res Announc. 11: e00038-22
61. McGraw KJ, Aguiar de Souza Penha, V, Drake DJ, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**. **2022**. *Poxvirus infection in house finches (Haemorrhous mexicanus): genome sequence analysis and patterns of infection in wild birds*. Transboundary and Emerging Diseases. 69:e2318-e2328.
62. Moubset O, François S, Maclot F, Palanga E, Julian C, Claude L, Fernandez E, Rott P, Daugrois J-H, Antoine-Lorquin A, Bernardo P, Blouin AG, Temple C, Kraberger S, Fontenele RS, Harkins GW, Ma Y, Marais A, Candresse T, Chéhida SB, Lefeuvre P, Lett J-M, **Varsani A**, Massart S, Ogliaastro M, Martin DP, Filloux D, Roumagnac P. **2022**. *Virion-Associated Nucleic Acid-Based Metagenomics: A Decade of Advances in Molecular Characterization of Plant Viruses*. Phytopathology 112:2253-2272
63. Ramos-González PL, Kondo H, Morozov S, Vasilakis N, **Varsani A**, Cao M, Freitas-Astúa J. **2022**. *Editorial: The Border Between Kitavirids and Nege-Like Viruses: Tracking the Evolutionary Pace of Plant- and Arthropod-Infecting Viruses*. Front Plant Sci. 13: e932523.
64. Roumagnac P, Lett J-M, Fiallo-Olivé E, Navas-Castillo J, Zerbini FM, Martin DP, **Varsani A**. **2022**. *Establishment of five new genera in the family Geminiviridae: Citlodavirus, Maldovirus, Mulcrilevirus, Opunvirus and Topilevirus*. Arch. Virol. 167: 695-710
65. Ortiz-Catedral L, Wallace CJ, Heinsohn R, Krebs E, Langmore NE, Vukelic D, Bucher EH, **Varsani A**, Masello JF. **2022**. *A PCR-based retrospective study for beak and feather disease virus (BFDV) in five wild populations of parrots from Australia, Argentina and New Zealand*. Diversity. 14: e148
66. Postler TS, Rubino L, Adriaenssens EM, Dutilh BE, Harrach B, Junglen S, Kropinski AM, Krupovic M, Wada J, Crane A, Kuhn JH, Mushegian A, Rūmnieks J, Sabanadzovic S, Simmonds P, **Varsani A**, Zerbini FM, Callanan J, Pallen MJ, Draper LA, Hill C, Stockdale SR. **2022**. *Guidance for creating individual and batch latinized binomial virus species names*. J Gen Virol. 103:001800
67. Pradhan S, **Varsani A**, Leff C, Swanson CJ, Hariadi RF. **2022**. *A foray into the knowledge landscape of virus aggregation: The knowns and unknowns*. Viruses. 14: e438
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69. Smith A, Kaiser N, Yanez A, Perleberg T, Elyaderani A, Skidmore P, Adhikari S, Driver EM, Halden RU, **Varsani A**, Scotch M. *Genome Sequence of a Microvirus Recovered from Wastewater in Arizona, USA, in October 2020, Encodes a Previously Undescribed DNA-Binding Protein*. Microbiol Res Announc. 11: e00337-22.
70. Sosa-Hernández JE, Oyervides-Muñoz MA, Melchor-Martínez EM, Driver EM, Bowes DA, Kraberger S, Lucero-Saucedo SL, Fontenele RS, Parra-Arroyo L, Holland LA, Peña-Benavides SA, Newell ME, Martínez-Ruiz M, Adhikari S, Rodas-Zuluaga LI, Kumar R, López-Pacheco IY, Castillo-Zacarias C, Iqbal HMN, Lim ES, Salas-Limón D, **Varsani A**, Halden RU, Parra-Saldívar R. **2022**. *Extensive wastewater-based epidemiology as a resourceful tool for SARS-CoV-2 surveillance in a low-to-middle-income country through a successful collaborative quest: WBE, mobility, and clinical tests*. Water. 14: e1842.

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- **Phillipe Lemey**, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Leuven, Belgium
- **Tomasz Piasecki**, Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences, Wrocław, Poland
- **Tomasz Stenzel**, University of Warmia, Olsztyn, Poland
- **Murillo Zerbini**, Universidade Federal de Viçosa, Viçosa, Brazil
- **Alice Inoue-Nagata**, Embrapa Hortalic, Brasilia, Brazil
- **Simone da Graça Ribeiro**, Embrapa Hortalic, Brasilia, Brazil

- **John Thomas**, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia
- **Andrew Geering**, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia
- **Liping Pang**, Environmental Science and Research, Christchurch, New Zealand
- **Kate McInnes**, Department of Conservation, Auckland, New Zealand
- **Jon Harding**, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand
- **Sharyn Goldstien**, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand
- **Peyman Zawar Reza**, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand
- **William Davison**, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand
- **Christopher Gomez**, Kobe University, Kobe City, Japan
- **Christopher Buck**, NIH, Bethesda, USA
- **Heather Jaspan**, Seattle Children's Research Institute, Seattle, USA
- **Terry Ng**, Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, USA
- **Eric Delwart**, Blood Systems Research Institute, San Francisco, USA
- **Joseph Levy**, Institute for Geophysics, University of Texas, USA
- **David G Ainley**, HT Harvey and Associates, Los Gatos, USA
- **Grant Ballard**, Point Blue Conservation Science, Petaluma, USA
- **Stacy Kim**, Moss Landing Laboratories, Moss Landing, USA
- **Michael Goebel**, NOAA/NMFS/Southwest Fisheries Science Center, La Jolla, USA
- **Jennifer Burns**, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, USA
- **Mya Breitbart**, University of South Florida, St Petersburg, USA
- **Sue VandeWoude**, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, USA
- **Koenraad van Doorslaer**, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA
- **Michael Worobey**, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA
- **Melanie Culver**, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA
- **Dale DeNardo**, Arizona State University, Tempe, USA
- **Kevin McGraw**, Arizona State University, Tempe, USA
- **Brian Smith**, Arizona State University, Tempe, USA
- **Alexander Lucas**, Arizona State University, Tempe, USA
- **Grant McFadden**, Arizona State University, Tempe, USA
- **Anne Stone**, Arizona State University, Tempe, USA
- **Melissa Wilson**, Arizona State University, Tempe, USA

STUDENT SUPERVISION

Arizona State University, USA

PhD

Melanie Regney, **PhD in Molecular and Cell Biology** (2022 – current) – Primary advisor
Viruses associated with Antarctic animals

Diego Olivio, **PhD in Biology** (2021 - current) – Primary advisor
Exploring viral dynamics in Aves

Rohan Antonio Bando, **PhD in Microbiology** (2021 – current) – Primary advisor
Towards understanding the ecology of honeybee viruses

Rafaela Fontenele, **PhD in Microbiology** (2017- 2021) – Primary supervisor
Characterization of geminiviruses infecting Cactaceae plants: Spill-over events in agro-ecological interfaces and evolutionary aspects

MSc

Savage Hess, **MSc in Molecular and Cell Biology** (2022 – 2023) – Primary advisor
Identification of novel circular DNA viruses from coyote (*Canis latrans*) scat

Michael Lund, **MSc in Molecular and Cell Biology** (2021 – 2023) – Primary advisor
Metagenomic analysis of DNA virus diversity in the Rodent families Cricetidae and Heteromyidae

Anthony Khalifeh, **MSc in Biology** (2020-2021) – Primary supervisor
Identification and dynamics of DNA viruses in Aves

Kara Schmidlin, **MSc in Microbiology** (2018-2019) – Primary supervisor
Discovery of novel viruses in arachnids

Barrett Honors thesis

Hannah McGraw (2023-2024)

Identifying novel smacoviruses in fecal samples of the Salt River horses

Julia Neil (2023-2024)

A study of novel polyomaviruses and cycloviruses in Arizona scorpions

Magalie Gomez (2023-2024)

A study of novel polyomaviruses and cycloviruses in Arizona scorpions

Ciara Harding (2021-2022) – Primary advisor

Exploring viruses in Arizona bat species

Courtney Collins (2021-2022) – Primary advisor

Understanding viral dynamic in caracals in South Africa

Kendal Smith (2020-2021) – Primary supervisor

Circular DNA viruses identified in short-finned pilot whale and orca tissue samples

Anthony Khalifeh (2019-2020) – Primary supervisor

Towards understanding ssDNA viral dynamics in Marmota flaviventris (yellow-bellied marmots)

Joshua Schreck (2019-2020 – Primary supervisor

Surveilling Arizona sewage sludge for analysis of Genomoviridae & Microviridae populations

University of Canterbury, New Zealand

PhD

Daisy Stanton, **PhD in Microbiology** (2010-2015) – Primary supervisor

Towards understanding the evolution of Banana bunchy top virus and the detection of associated badnaviruses

Anisha Dayaram, **PhD in Microbiology** (2011-2015) – Primary supervisor

Diversity of replication associated protein encoding viruses amongst top end insect predators and concentrators in ecosystems

Simona Kraberger, **PhD in Microbiology** (2010-2015) - Primary supervisor

Towards understanding mastrevirus dynamics and the use of viral metagenomic approaches to identify novel gemini-like circular DNA viruses

Kata Farkas, **PhD in Microbiology** (2011-2014) - Primary supervisor

Mimicking virus retention and transport in groundwater using surface charge-modified, DNA-labelled silica nanobeads

MSc

Zoe Smeele, **MSc in Microbiology** (2017) – Primary supervisor

Identification of papillomaviruses in Weddell seals

Judith Nonis, **MSc in Microbiology** (2015) – Co-supervisor

Bacteriophage as a biocontrol tool for foodborne pathogens

Olivia Steel, **MSc in Microbiology** (2015) - Primary supervisor

Exploring the diversity of CRESS DNA viruses associated with the faecal matter of wild and domestic animals in New Zealand

Maketalena Male, **MSc in Microbiology** (2015) - Primary supervisor

Identification of CRESS DNA viruses in faeces of Pacific flying foxes in the Tongan archipelago

Alyssa Sikorski, **MSc in Microbiology** (2012 -2013) – Primary supervisor

Molecular characterisation of novel single-stranded DNA viruses recovered from animal faeces

Carina Davis, **MSc in Microbiology** (2012-2013) – Co-supervisor

Metagenomic approaches to microbial source tracking

Laurel Julian, **MSc in Microbiology** (2011-2012) - Primary supervisor

Analysis of genetic diversity and evolution through recombination of beak and feather disease virus

Robert Lawry, **MSc in Microbiology** (2009-2010) - Primary supervisor

Diversity and evolution of geminiviruses

University of Cape Town, South Africa

PhD

Adérito Monjane, **PhD in Molecular and Cell Biology** (2007- 2012) – Co-supervisor
Analysis of recombination and evolution of maize streak virus

MSc

Kyle Dent, **MSc in Structural Biology** (2007-2009) – Co-supervisor
3D reconstruction of maize streak virus structure

Jennifer Miller, **MSc in Structural Biology** (2006-2008) – Co-supervisor
Structural studies on *Heterocapsa circularisquama* RNA virus

Honours

Alistair Gray, **Honours in Molecular and Cell Biology** (2008) – Co-supervisor
Characterisation of the D surface of nitrile hydratase of *Bacillus pumilus*

Oliver Windram, **Honours in Molecular and Cell Biology** (2006) – Primary Supervisor
Preliminary investigation into the use of Human papillomavirus type 16 virus like particles as a delivery vector system for foreign proteins

Murdoch University, Australia

PhD

Bethany Jackson, **PhD in Wildlife Diseases** (2011-2014) – Co-supervisor
Health and disease in kakariki (*Cyanoramphus novaeseelandiae*) on Tiritiri Matangi Island: Implications of Beak and feather disease virus infection for conservation management

PATENTS

International patents:

1. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** (2010) *Chimaeric Human Papillomavirus 16 L1 Virus Like Particles and a Method for Preparing the Particles*. Patent No. 24614765, Japan.
2. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** (2009) *Chimaeric Human Papillomavirus 16 L1 Virus Like Particles and a Method for Preparing the Particles*. Patent No. 2003232951, Australia.
3. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** (2009) *Chimaeric Human Papillomavirus 16 L1 Virus Like Particles and a Method for Preparing the Particles*. Patent No. 1506222, Europe (EU).
4. **Varsani, A.D.** and Rybicki, E.P. (2008) *Chimaeric Human Papillomavirus 16 L1 Virus Like Particles and a Method for Preparing the Particles*. Patent No. 7407807, US.
5. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** and Williamson A-L. (2008) *Pharmaceutical Compositions, a Method of Preparing and Isolating Said Pharmaceutical Compositions for Prophylactic Treatment of Lesions and Carcinomas*. Patent No. 221817, India.
6. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** and Williamson A-L. (2008) *Pharmaceutical Compositions, a Method of Preparing and Isolating Said Pharmaceutical Compositions for Prophylactic Treatment of Lesions and Carcinomas*. Patent No. 02821542.7, China.
7. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** (2006) *Chimaeric Human Papillomavirus 16 L1 Virus Like Particles and a Method for Preparing the Particles*. Patent No. 2004/10137, South Africa.
8. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** and Williamson A-L. (2006) *Vectors and/or Constructs, and Transgenic Organisms*. Patent No. 02821507.9, China.
9. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** and Williamson A-L. (2005) *Pharmaceutical Compositions, a Method of Preparing and Isolating Said Pharmaceutical Compositions for Prophylactic Treatment of Lesions and Carcinomas*. Patent No. 2004/2505, South Africa.
10. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** and Williamson A-L. (2005) *Vectors and/or Constructs, and Transgenic Organisms*. Patent No. 2004/2504, South Africa.

INTERNATIONAL REFEREEING AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

- 1) Executive committee member of the “International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses” (2014 – current)
- 2) Committee member of the “International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses” *Geminiviridae* study group (2010 – current)
- 3) Chair of the “International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses” *Circoviridae* study group (2011 – current)

- 4) Chair of the “International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses” *Anelloviridae* study group (2019 – 2023)
- 5) Chair of the “International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses” Animal DNA Viruses and Retroviruses Subcommittee (2020 – current)
- 6) Advisory board of the journal Virology (2015 – current)
- 7) Advisor for virus genomes as part of the NCBI RefSeq Virus group (2016 – current)
- 8) Associate editor for Phytopathology (2018- current)
- 9) Associate editor for Virus Evolution (2019 – current)
- 10) Associate editor for Journal of General Virology (2020 – 2023)
- 11) Associate editor for Proceedings of the Royal Society B journal (2024-current)
- 12) Editorial board for Microorganisms (2018 – current)
- 13) Member of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research Expert Group on Birds and Marine Mammals - Working group of Health Monitoring of Birds and Marine Mammals (2020- current)
- 14) Member of the scientific advisory board for Point Blue Conservation Science (2022- current)
- 15) Referee for the following journals
 - Annals of Applied Biology (Wiley-Blackwell)
 - Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences (Wiley)
 - Applied and Environmental Microbiology (ASM)
 - Archives of Virology (Springer-Nature)
 - Australasian Plant Pathology (CSIRO publishing)
 - Avian Pathology (Taylor and Francis)
 - Cell Host and Microbe (Cell Press)
 - Crop and Pasture Science (CSIRO publishing)
 - Emerging Infectious Diseases (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
 - European Journal of Plant Pathology (Springer-Nature)
 - Evolutionary Applications (Wiley)
 - Gene (Elsevier)
 - Genome Biology and Evolution (Oxford Journals)
 - Infection, Genetics and Evolution (Elsevier)
 - International Journal of Odonatology (Taylor and Francis)
 - ISME Journal (Springer-Nature)
 - Journal of Clinical Virology (Elsevier)
 - Journal of General Virology (SGM)
 - Journal of Virological Methods (Elsevier)
 - Journal of Virology (ASM)
 - mBIO (ASM)
 - mSphere (ASM)
 - Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution (Elsevier)
 - mSphere (ASM)
 - Nature Microbiology Review (Springer-Nature)
 - Nature Biotechnology (Springer-Nature)
 - Nature Microbiology (Springer-Nature)
 - Nature Protocols (Springer-Nature)
 - Phytopathology (APS)
 - Plant Pathology Journal (Wiley)
 - PLoS One (PLoS Journals)
 - PLoS Pathogens (PLoS Journals)
 - Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS)
 - Proceedings of the Royal Society B (Royal Society)
 - Science Advances (AAAS)
 - Scientific Reports (Springer-Nature)
 - Transboundary and Emerging Diseases (Wiley)
 - Transfusion (Wiley)
 - Virology (Elsevier)
 - Virology Journal (BioMed Central)

- Virulence (Taylor and Francis)
- Virus Evolution (Oxford Journals)
- Virus Genes (Springer-Nature)
- Virus Research (Elsevier)
- Viruses (MDPI)

GENERAL

Languages

Proficient in spoken and written English, Swahili and Gujarati.

Personal interests

Climbing, mountaineering, trail running and photography.

REFEREES

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