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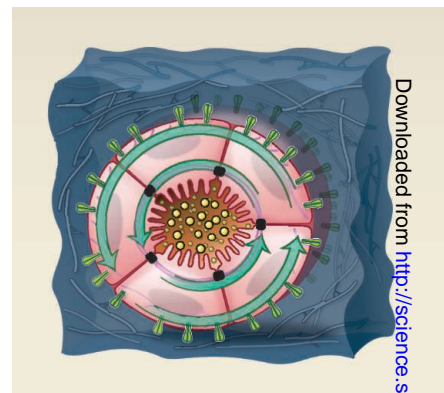
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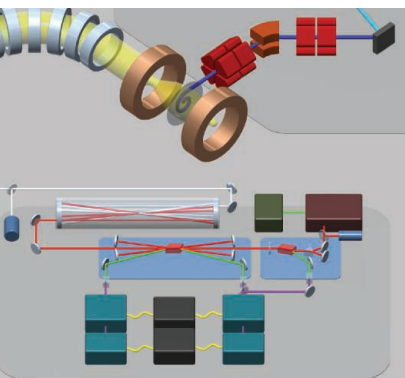
COVER

A juvenile male *Pteropus alecto* (black flying fox) spreading its wings (for adults, average wing span: ~1 meter; average weight range: 500 to 1000 grams). Bats, the only mammals capable of sustained flight, are among the world's most diverse mammals and are host to numerous deadly viruses. Comparative genome analyses have shed new light on the evolution of bat-specific traits, including flight and immunity. See page 456.

Photo: *Martin Asser Hansen/www.maasha.dk*

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