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FEATURE

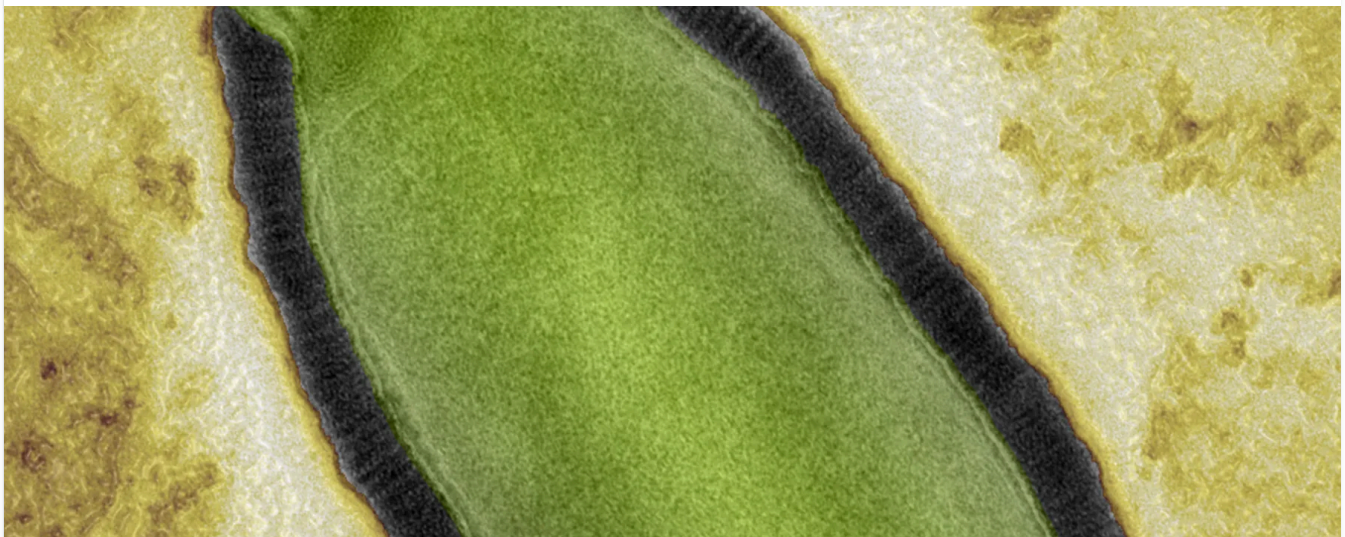
What Are Giant Viruses, and Are They Dangerous?

Lurking in the vast expanse of the ocean and buried deep in the Siberian permafrost, there are giants—not blue whales and mammoths, but giant viruses.

Written by [Rebecca Roberts, PhD](#)

Jan 2, 2026 | 7 min read

 SAVE FOR LATER



Pithovirus, otherwise known as the zombie virus, was isolated from the Siberian permafrost and revived by Jean-Michel Claverie and his team.

IMAGE CREDIT: IGS, CNRS

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