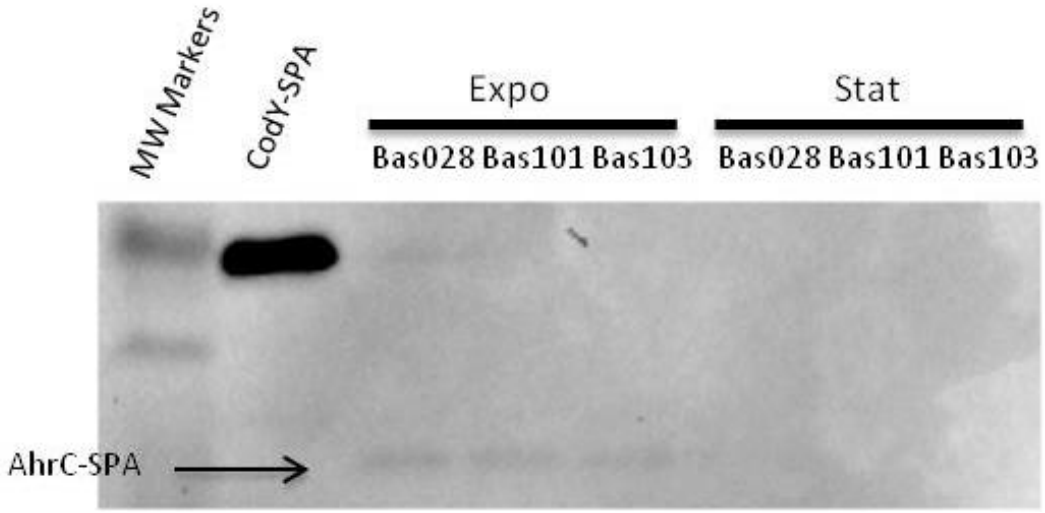
ahrC expression in hfq_{Bs}-expressing strain and Δhfq_{Bs} mutant

The BSB1 strain was used to express a C-terminally SPA tagged AhrC ($AhrC^{SPA}$) by constructing a translational fusion of the *ahrC* coding sequence and the SPA tag sequence at the locus. In the resulting strain (Bas028) *ahrC-SPA* is expressed under the control of its own promoter. This fusion was transferred in *hfq* deleted strains (TR223 *hfq::cat* or TR232 *hfq::spec*), and the quantity of AhrC was measured by Western-blot in cells grown in LB rich medium.



Protein samples extracted from cells carrying the *ahrC*-SPA translational fusion in hfq_{Bs}-expressing strain (Bas028) or Δhfq_{Bs} mutants (Bas101, Bas103) were adjusted quantitatively and separated on a 10% SDS-PAGE. As control, a sample from cells expressing $CodY^{SPA}$ was also loaded on the gel. Faint bands of equal intensities corresponding to $AhrC^{SPA}$ were detected in the exponential phase as indicated by the arrow in the figure. No bands corresponding to $AhrC^{SPA}$ were visible for samples of the 3 strains taken in stationary phase of growth.