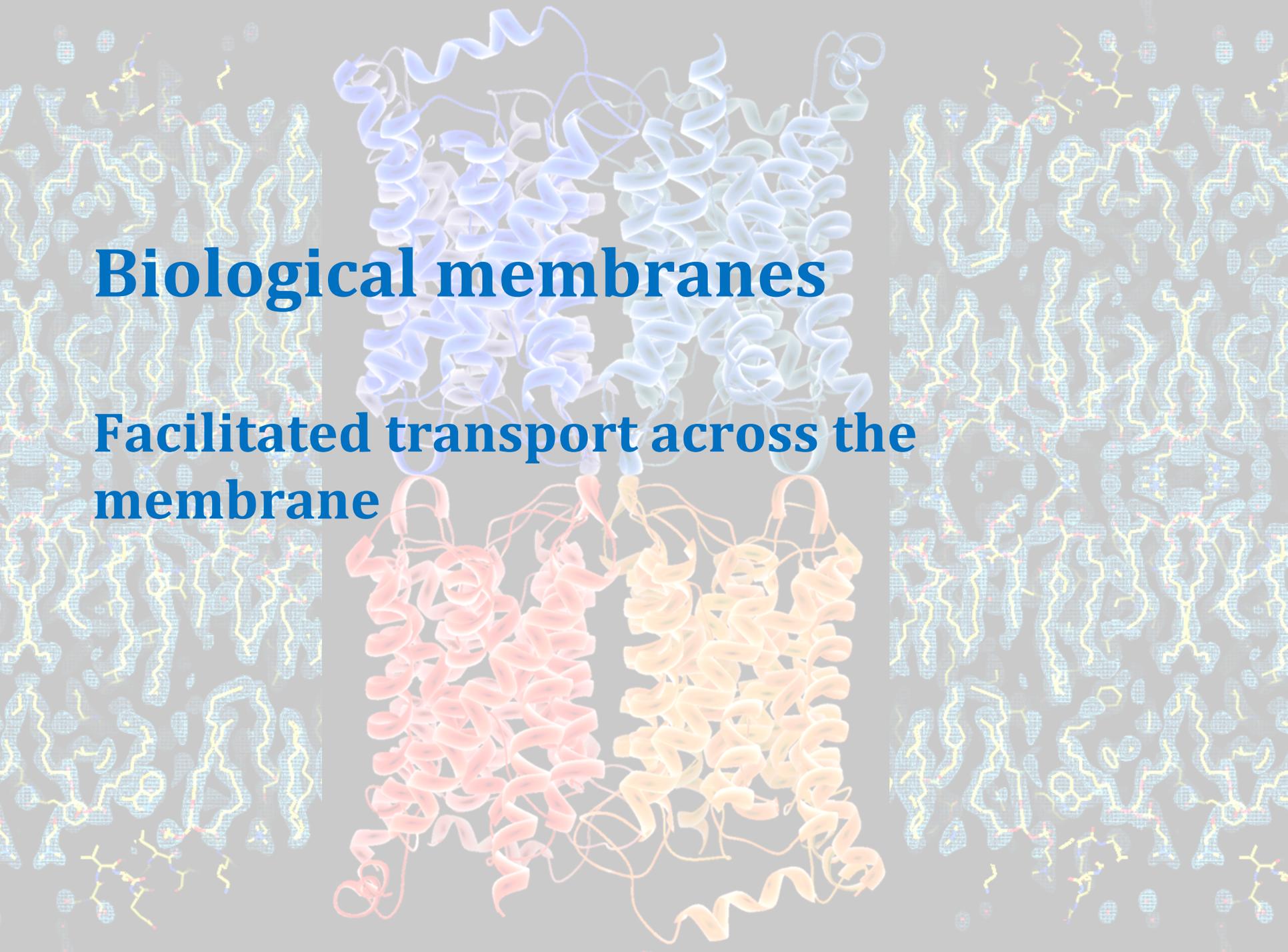


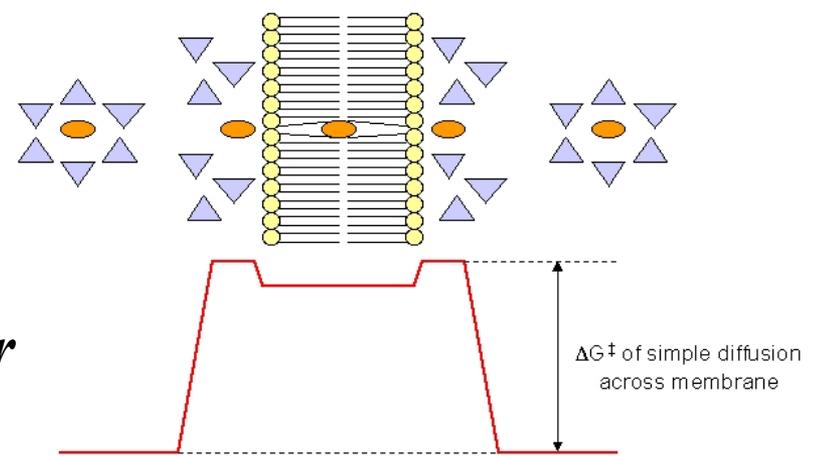
# Biological membranes

## Facilitated transport across the membrane

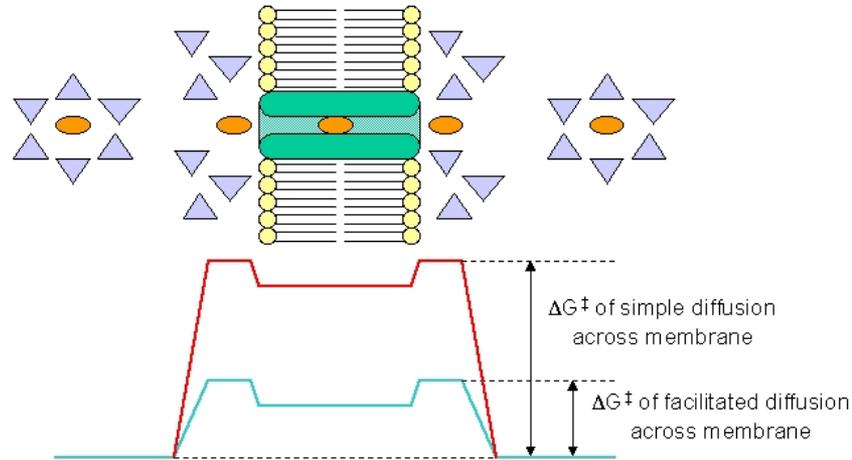


***Molecule must shed their water of hydration before they can cross the membrane***

***Amino acid residues of the transporter interact with "dehydrated" solute***



***Forming hydrophilic passageway or package through membrane***

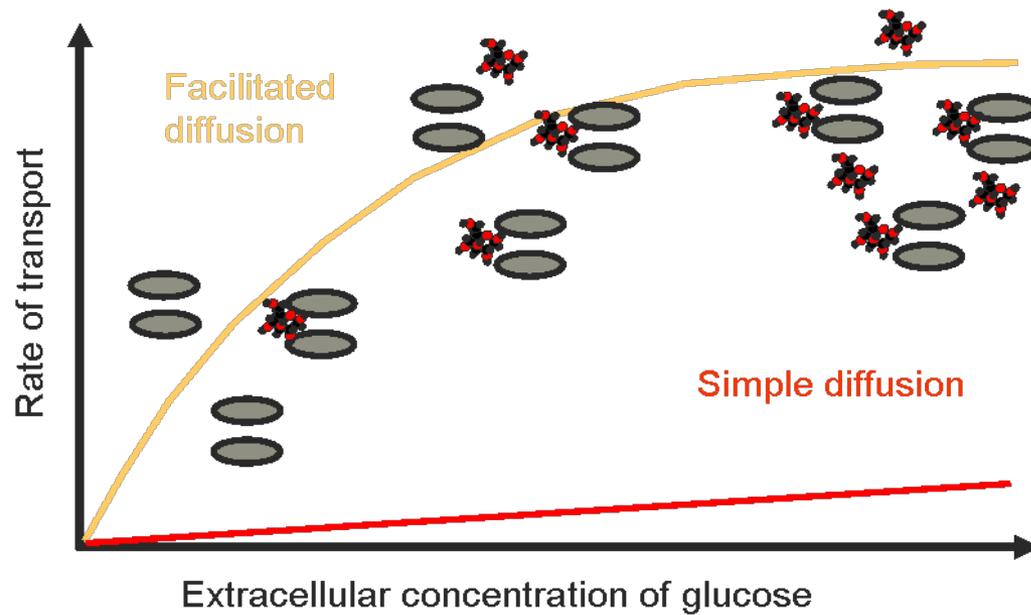


***Reduce energy barrier***

$$\Delta G = \sum_i n_i \Delta \mu_i = \sum_i n_i (\mu_i^{in} - \mu_i^{out}) = \sum_i n_i \left[ RT \ln \left( \frac{C^{in}}{C^{out}} \right) + z_i F \psi_m \right]$$

# Properties of facilitated transport

- **Passive** – down concentration gradient - energy-independent.
- **Like enzymes** - bind and transport substrate molecules, **ONE** at a time.
- A rate of solute movement across the membrane is **saturable**.



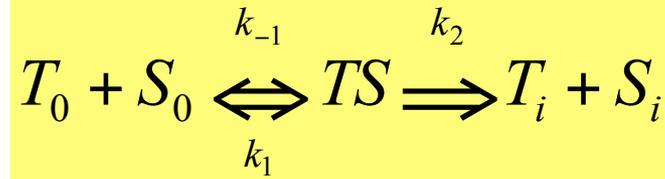
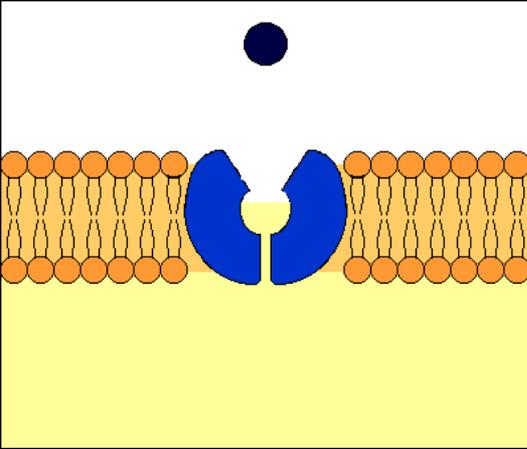
➤ **Specific**

➤ **Dependent on temperature**

➤ **Can be inhibited**

➤ **Fast** – the flow may approach diffusion limit e.g.  $10^7$  ions/sec.

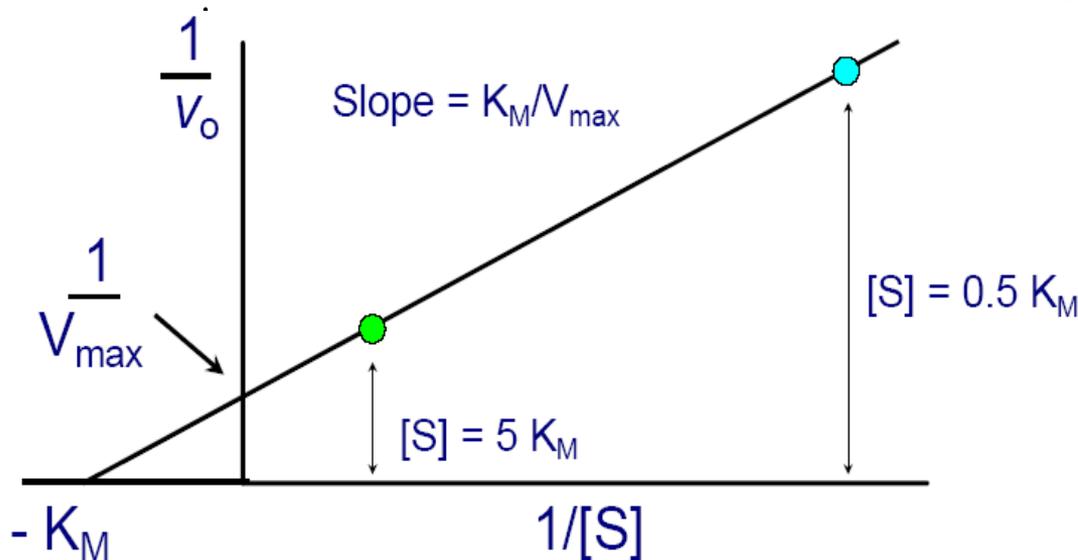
# Michaelis -Menten Kinetics Applies to Transport Activity



The Michaelis constant,  $K_M$ , is the concentration of substrate at which the velocity of transport is one-half the maxima.

## Michaelis-Menten equation

$$v_0 = \frac{v_{\max} [S]}{K_M + [S]}$$



**Dissociation constant**

$$K_D = \frac{k_{-1}}{k_1} = \frac{[T][S]}{[TS]}$$

**Michaelis complex**

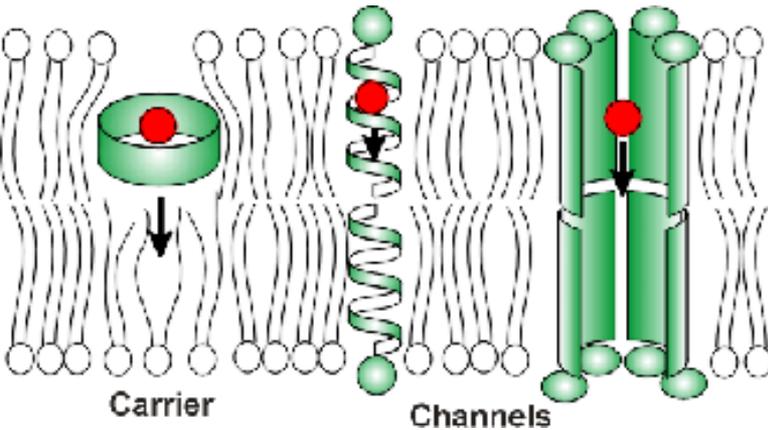
$$\frac{1}{v_0} = \frac{K_M}{V_{\max}} \times \frac{1}{[S]} + \frac{1}{V_{\max}}$$

**Lineweaver - Burk plot**

# ***Ionophores***

*Small agents produced by microorganisms to kill other microorganisms*

*They are hydrophobic compounds which can complex an ion and carry it across a lipid bilayer.*



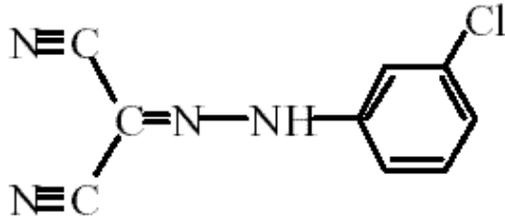
## ***Two basic types: mobile carriers & pores***

- *Pores are not affected by temperature.*
- *Carriers depend on the fluidity of the membrane, so transport rates are highly sensitive to temperature, especially near the phase transition of the membrane lipids*

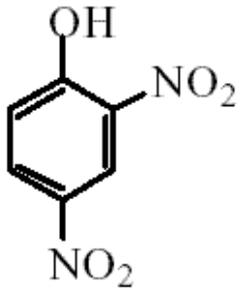
## *Classification of ionophores*

- ***neutral ionophores*** (e.g. Valinomycin)
- ***carboxylic ionophores*** (e.g. Nigericin)
- ***protonophores***

# Protonophores



*Carbonylcyanide m-chlorophenyl hydrazone (CCCP)*

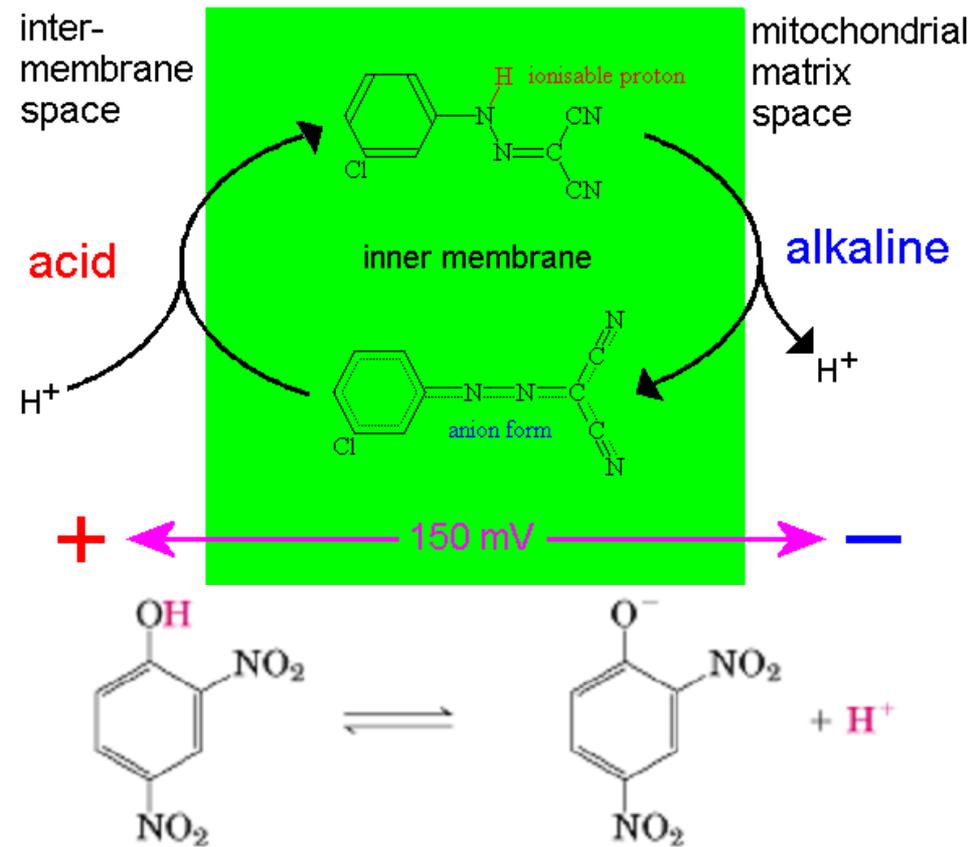


*2,4-Dinitrophenol (DNP)*

***Both DNP and CCCP have a dissociable proton (weak acids) and are hydrophobic.***

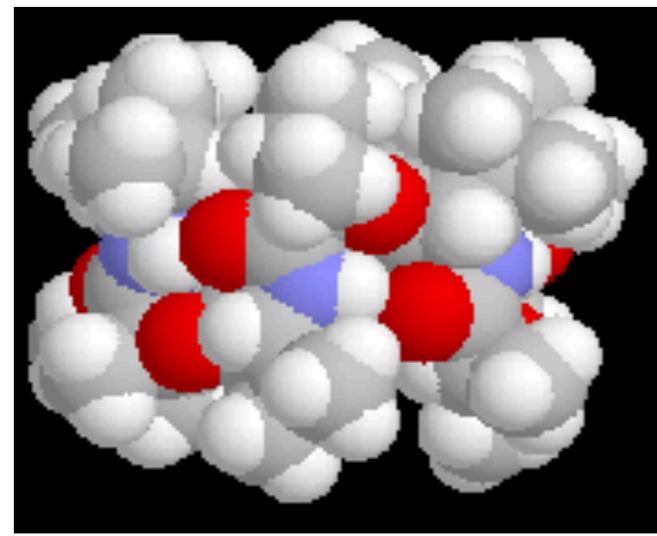
$$\psi_m = \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left( \frac{[H^+]_{out}}{[H^+]_{in}} \right)$$

*At the equilibrium*

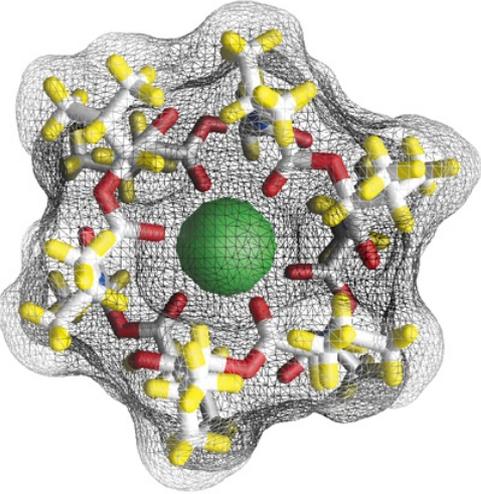




The **valinomycin** surrounds the potassium ion with a hydrophobic surface which allows the ion to cross the membrane.



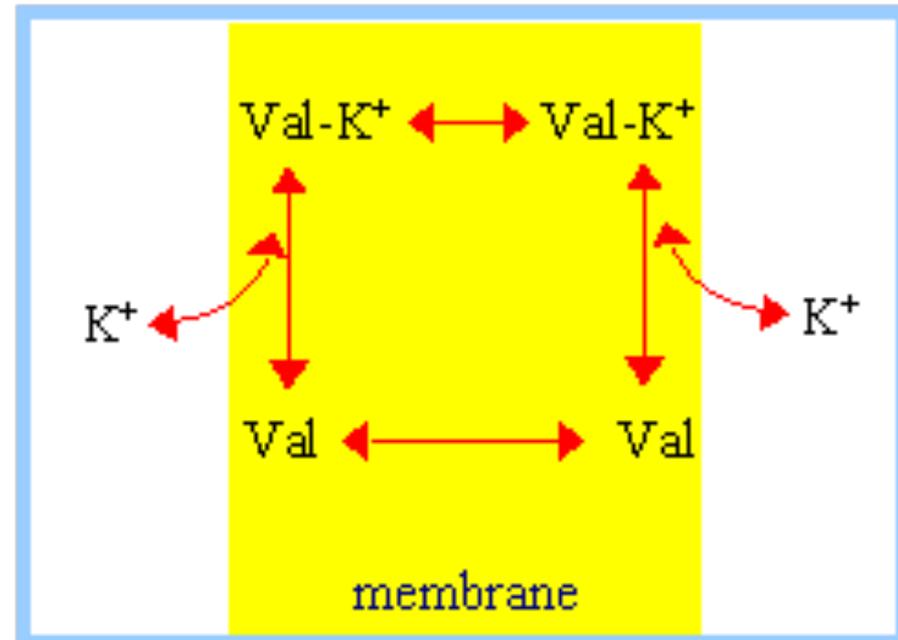
**$K^+$  is 6-coordinated when in complex with Valinomycin.**



**$K^+$**

✚ It crosses the membrane either with or without a bound ion.

✚ It depends on the membrane potential.

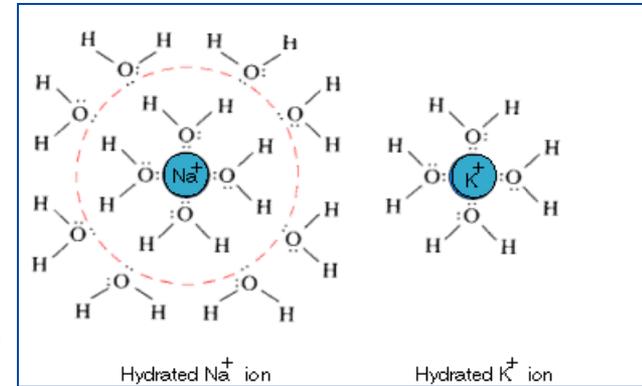


# The selectivity of valinomycin for $K^+$

*Affinities for  $Na^+$  and  $Li^+$  are about a  
10 000 - fold lower.*

**Factor 1:** Ionic radius ( $K^+ > Na^+ > Li^+$ ).

**Factor 2:** desolvation energy: water molecules surrounding the ion must be stripped off before it binds to the carrier:

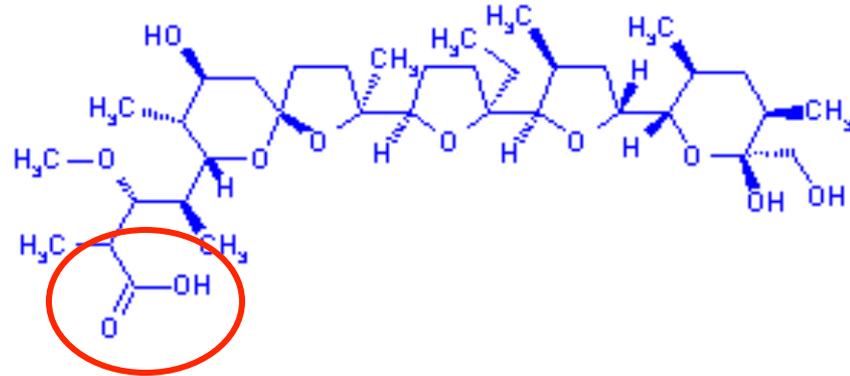


Ion	Atomic Number	Ionic Radius (nm)	Hydration Free Energy, $\Delta G$ (kJ/mol)
$Li^+$	3	0.06	-410
$Na^+$	11	0.095	-300
$K^+$	19	0.133	-230
$Rb^+$	37	0.148	-210
$Cs^+$	55	0.169	-200

*It "costs more" energetically to desolvate  $Na^+$  and  $Li^+$  than  $K^+$*

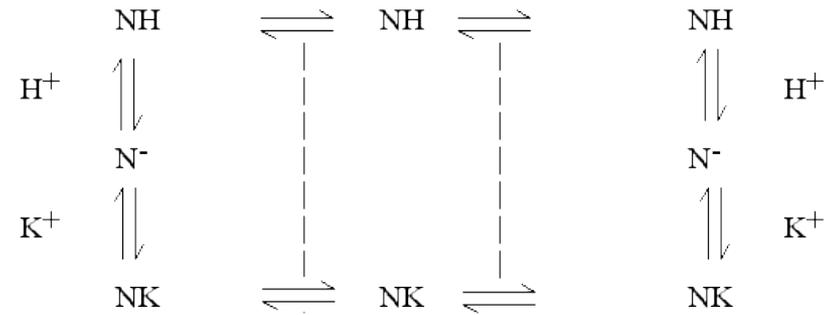
# The carboxylic ionophores -Nigericin

✚ It has linear structure with a carboxyl group on one end and hydroxyls on the other.



✚ It is a  $K^+/H^+$  exchanger.

✚ It cyclize by head-to-tail hydrogen bonding and will cross the membrane with the carboxyl group either protonated or complexed to an ion.



✚ Nigericin does not carry a net charge across the membrane.

$$\Delta G = RT \ln\left(\frac{[H^+]_{in}}{[H^+]_{out}}\right) + F\psi_m - RT \ln\left(\frac{[K^+]_{in}}{[K^+]_{out}}\right) + F\psi_m$$

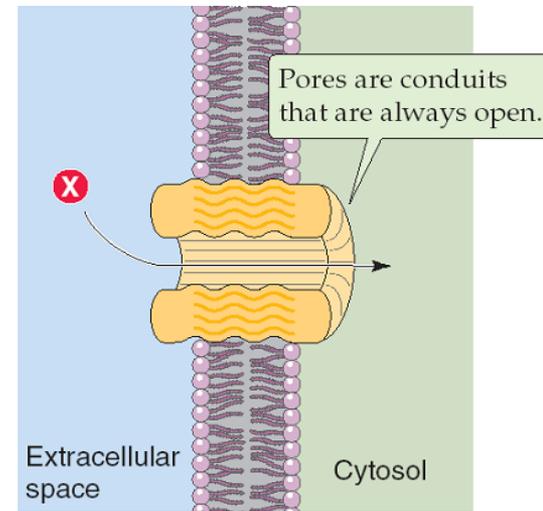
$$\Delta G = 0$$

$$\frac{[H^+]_{in}}{[H^+]_{out}} = \frac{[K^+]_{in}}{[K^+]_{out}}$$

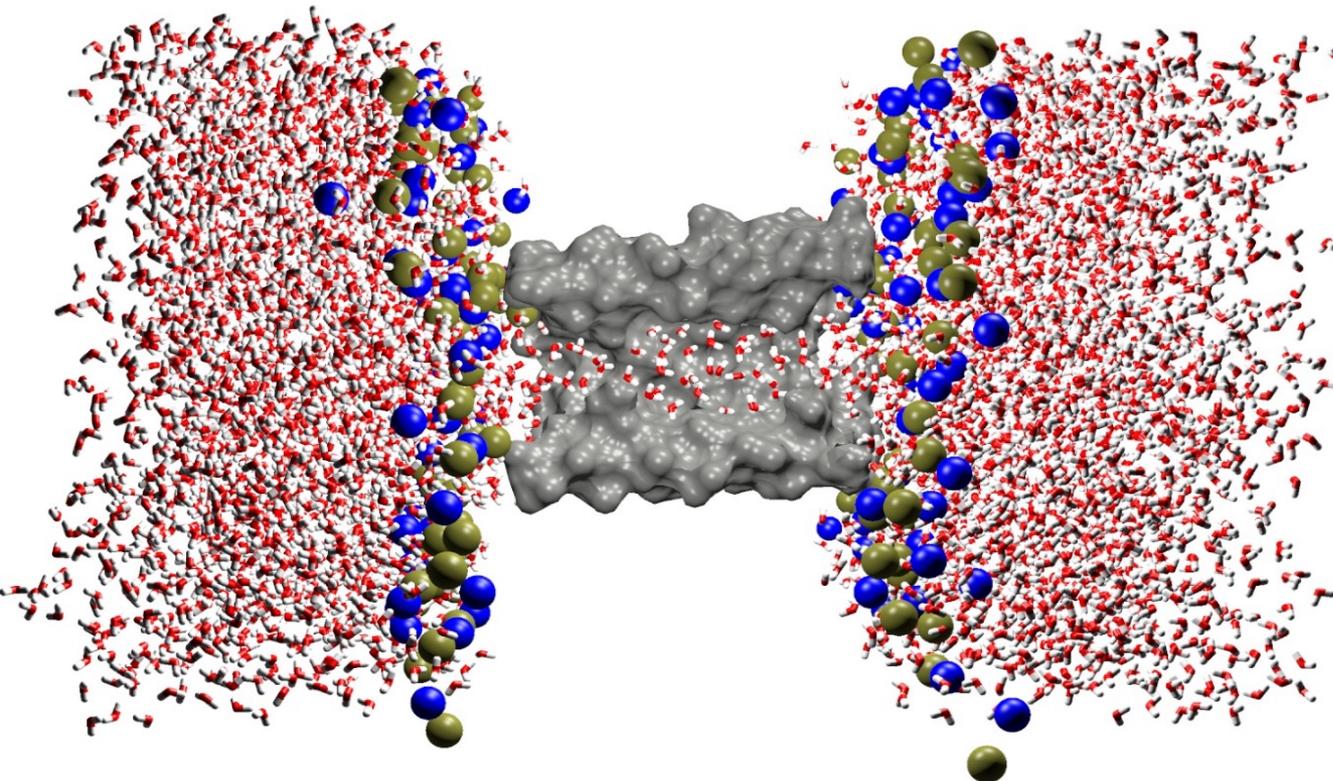
*Nigericin will reach equilibrium when the  $[H^+]$  and  $[K^+]$  gradients are proportional.*

# *Pores*

*Solutes with appropriate size and charge can pass rapidly in either direction by diffusion.*

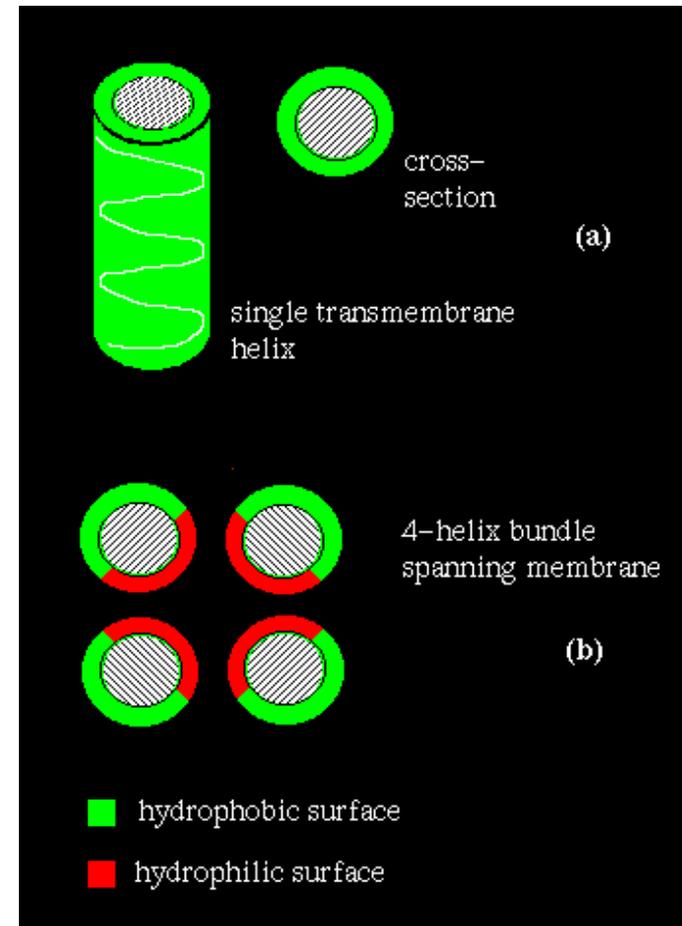
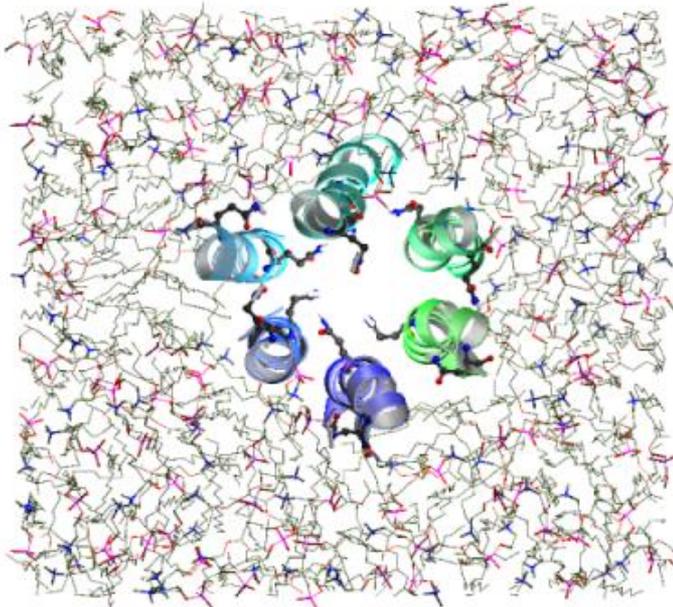
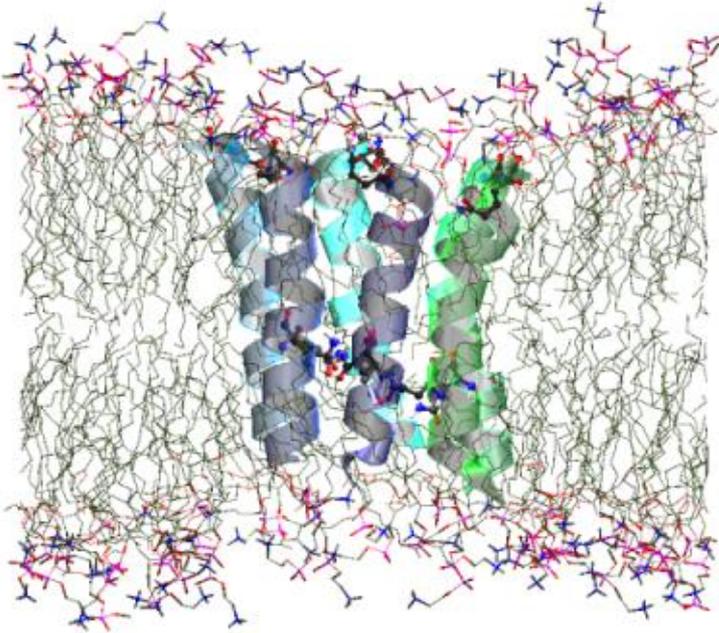


*Pore  
(non-gated channel)*

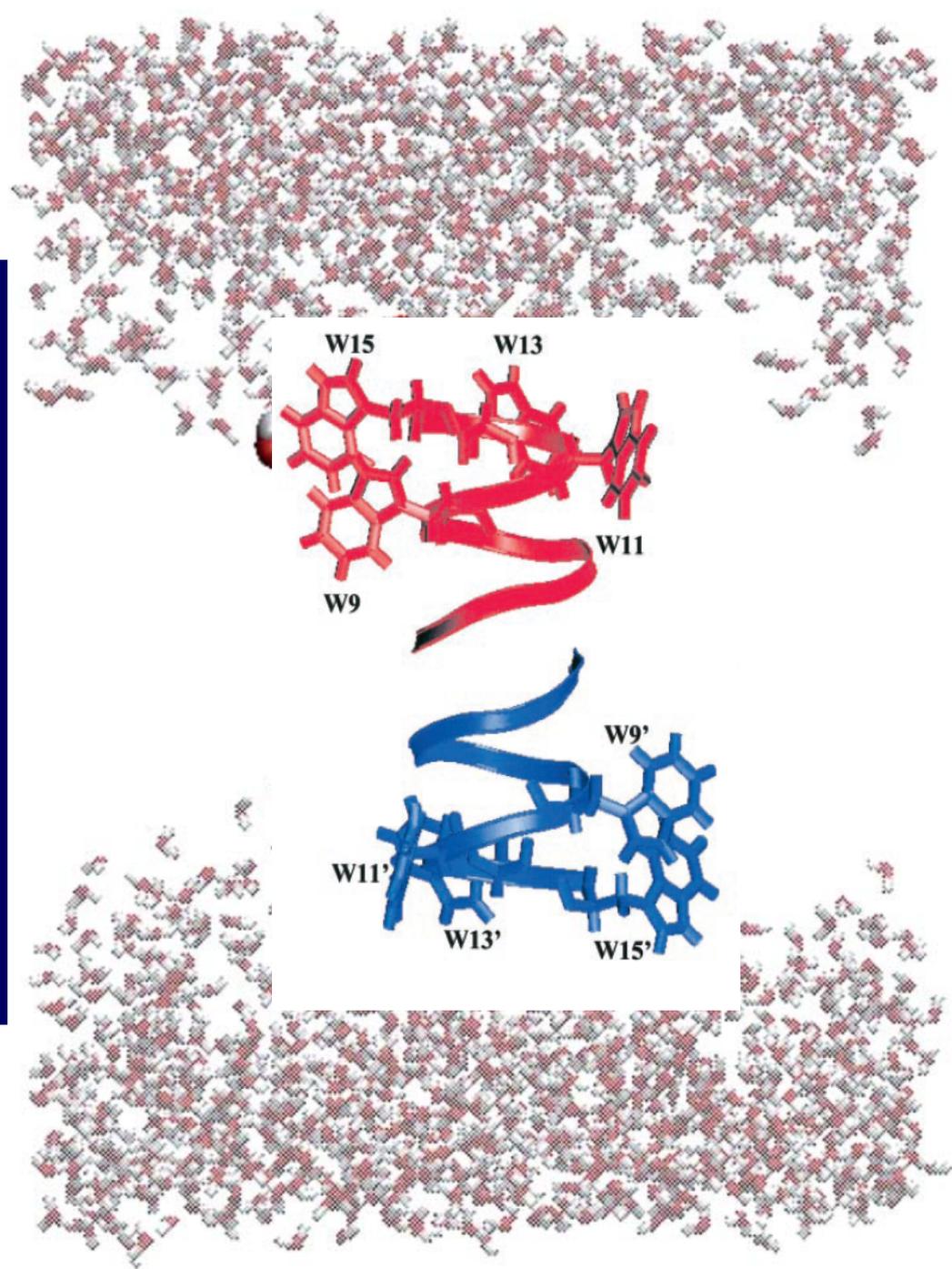
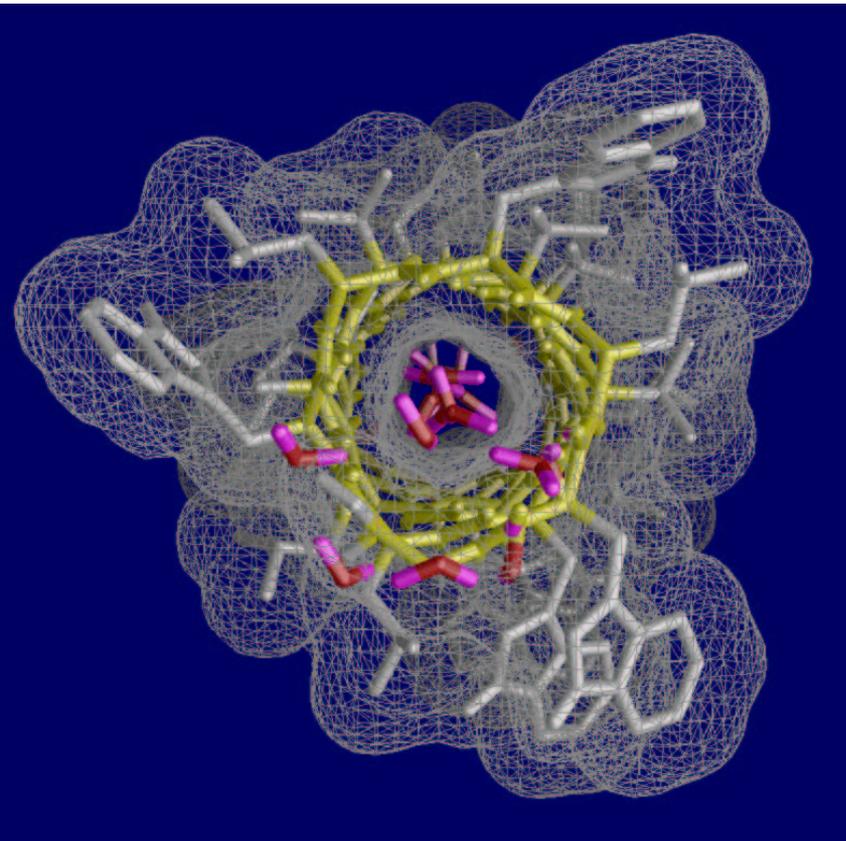


# *Alamethicin – a weakly selective channel*

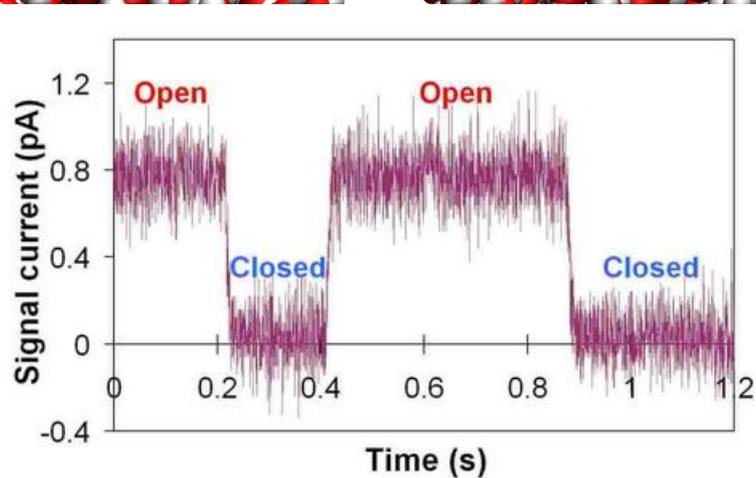
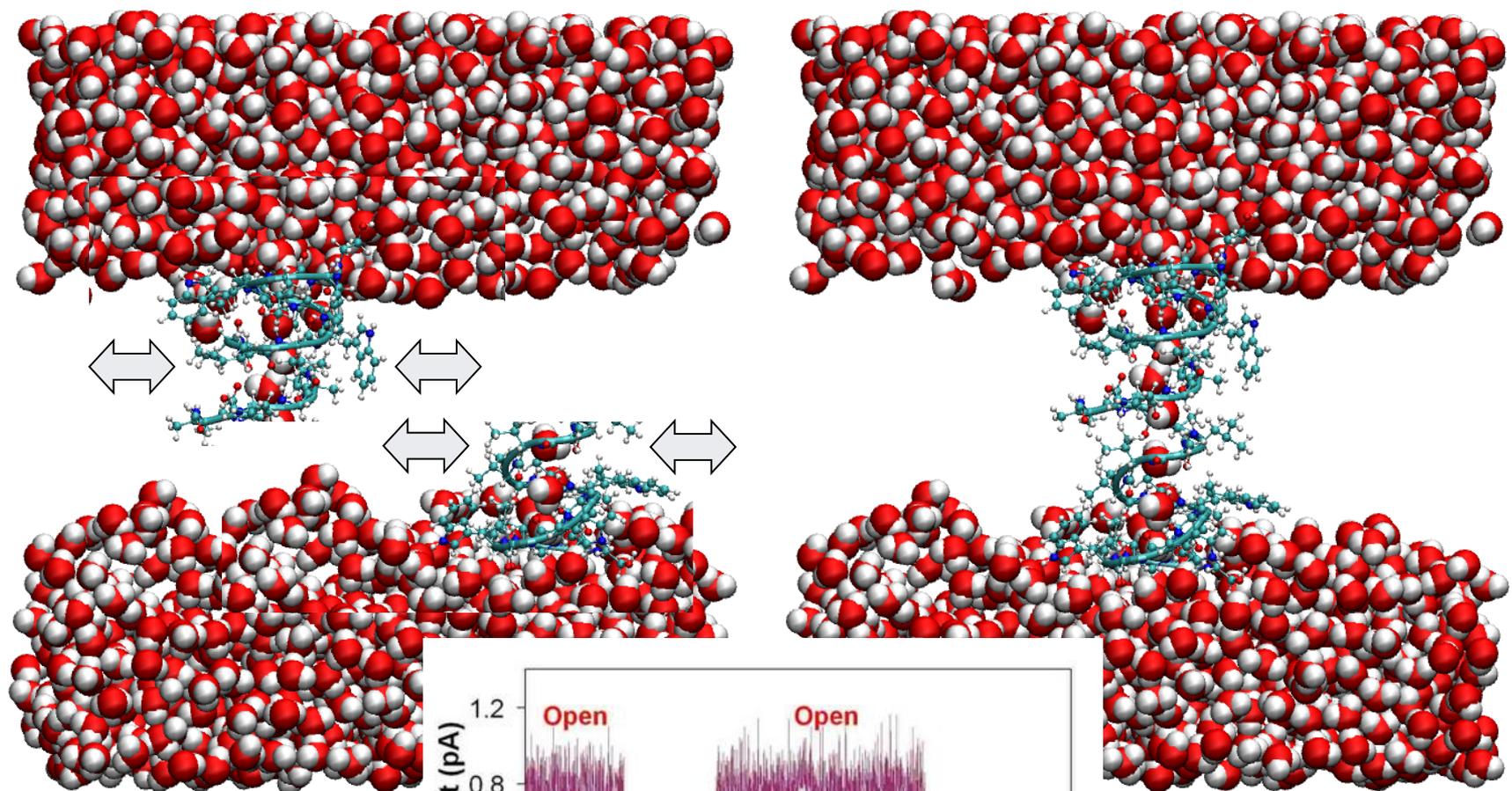
- ◆ *Multi-conductance level channels,*
- ◆ *Rapid switching between conductance levels,*
- ◆ *Weakly cation selective (ca. 4:1 cations:anions)*



# *Gramicidins*

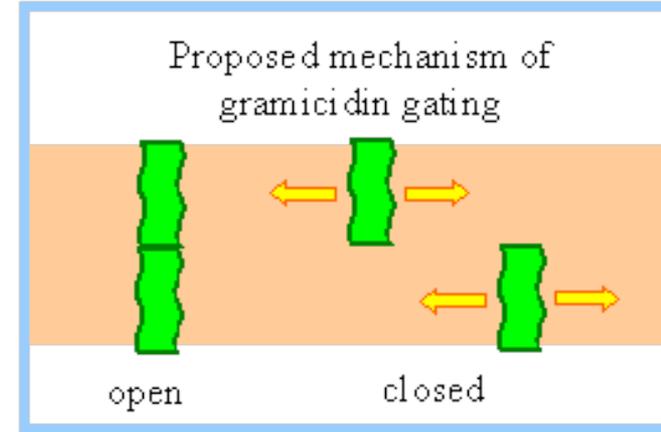
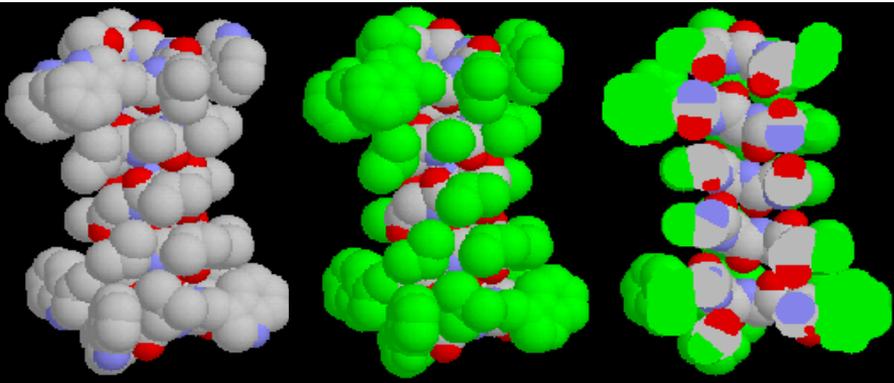


# *Gramicidin A: a diffusive carrier that forms pores*

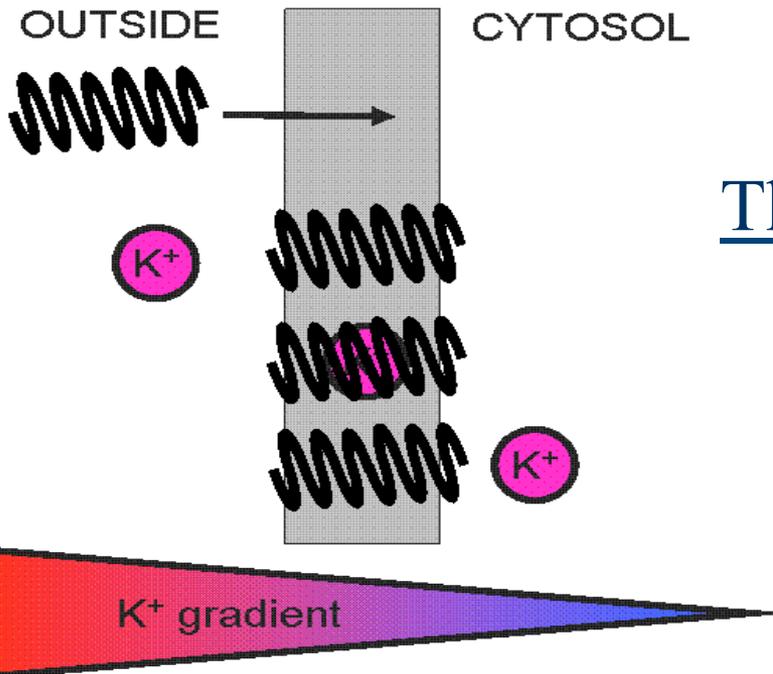


# Gramicidin pore

✚ Channels constantly assemble and dissociate (lifetime ~1 sec)



✚ At high [gramicidin] overall transport rate depends on  $[\text{gramicidin}]^2$ .



The rate of transport:

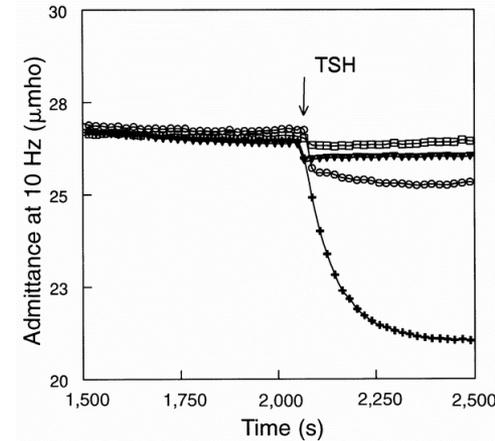
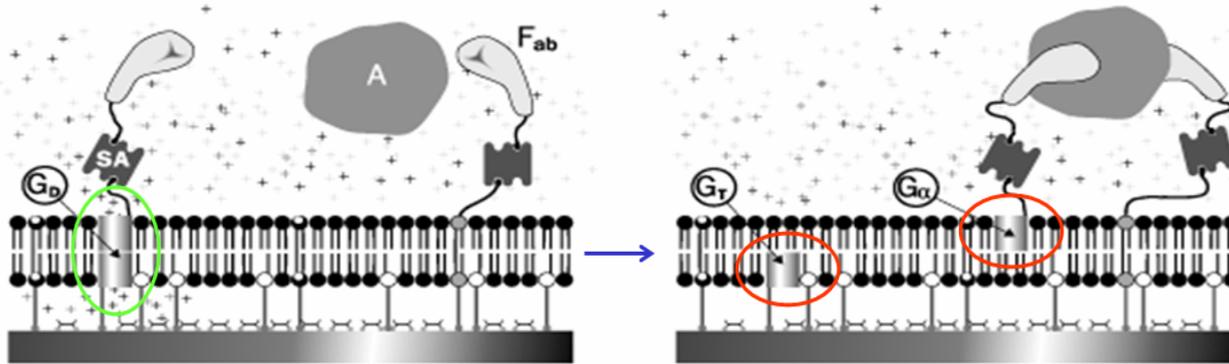
*valinomycin* (carrier) transports up to  $10^4 \text{ K}^+/\text{sec}$

*gramicidin* (channel) permeability is up to  $10^7 \text{ K}^+/\text{sec}$

# Gramicidin Based Biosensor - Design

## Mode A

- ◆ Analyte binding disrupts channels
- ◆ Analyte reduces conductance



## Mode B

- ◆ Analyte competes for Fab binding, allowing channels to reform
- ◆ Analyte increases conductance

