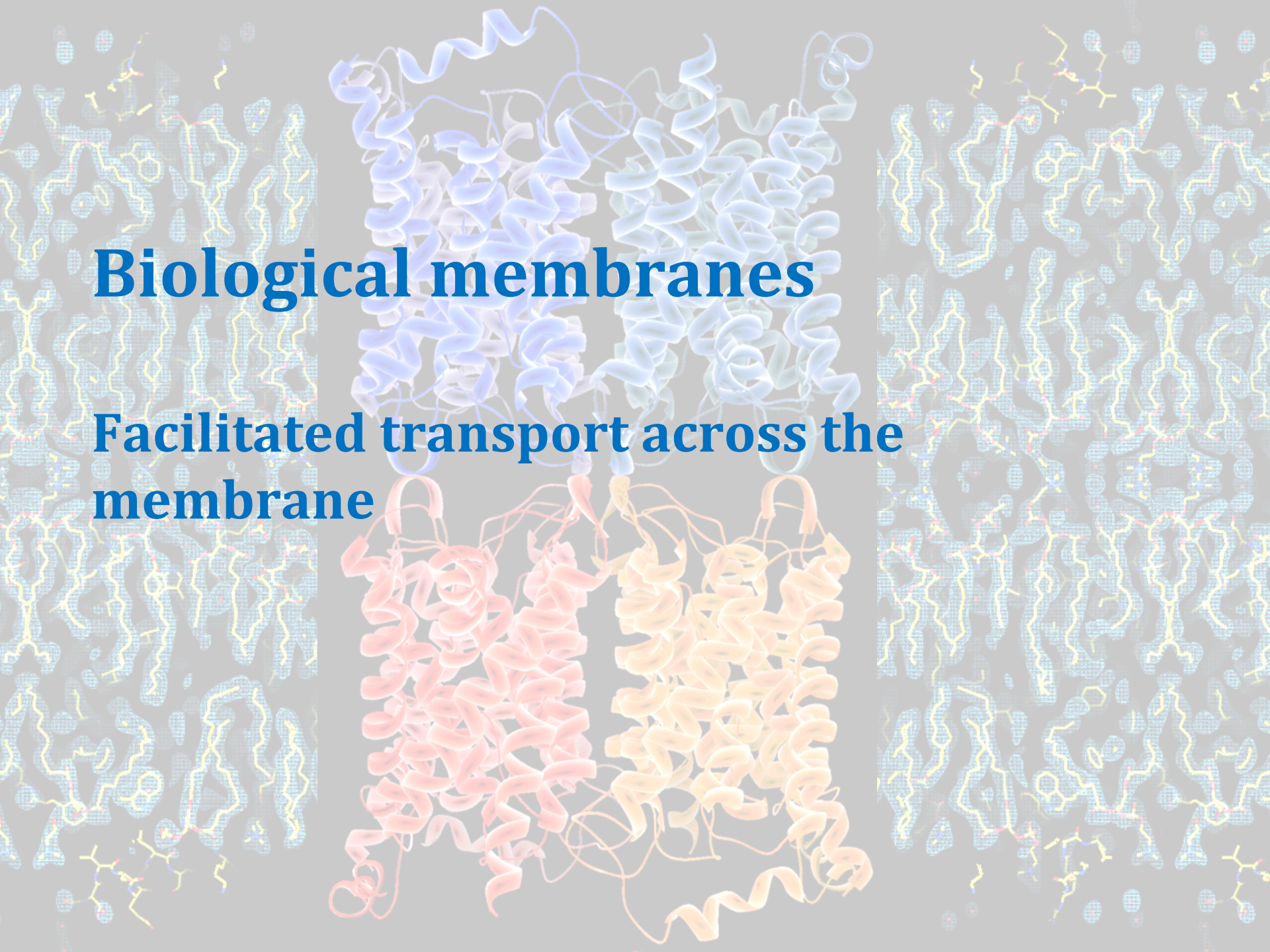


Biological membranes

Facilitated transport across the membrane



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

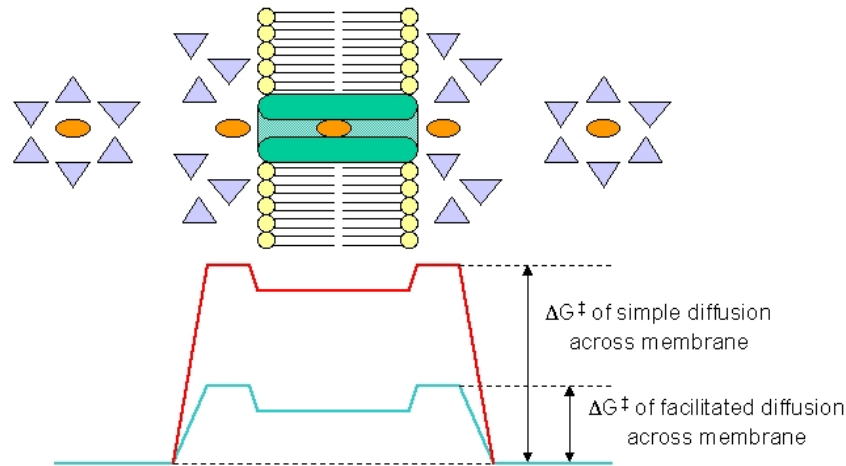
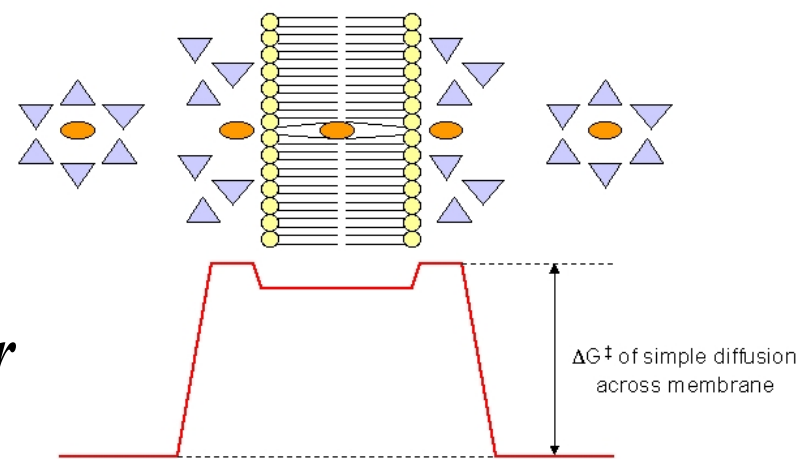
Amino acid residues of the transporter interact with "dehydrated" solute



Forming hydrophilic passageway or package through membrane



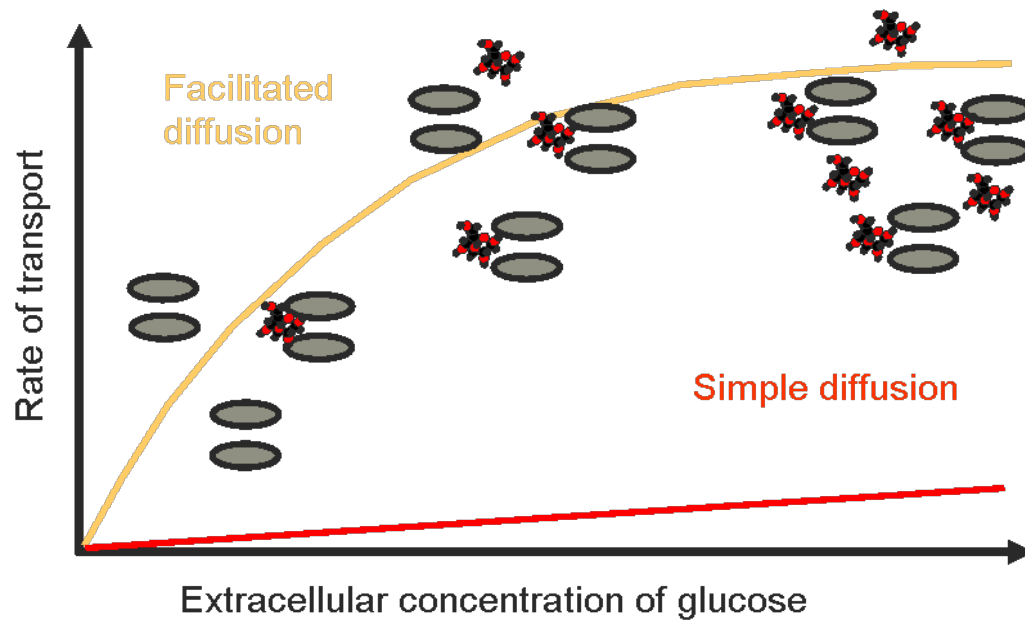
Reduce energy barrier



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

Properties of facilitated transport

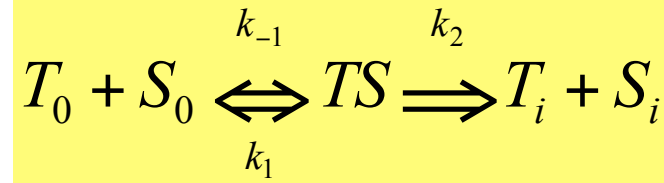
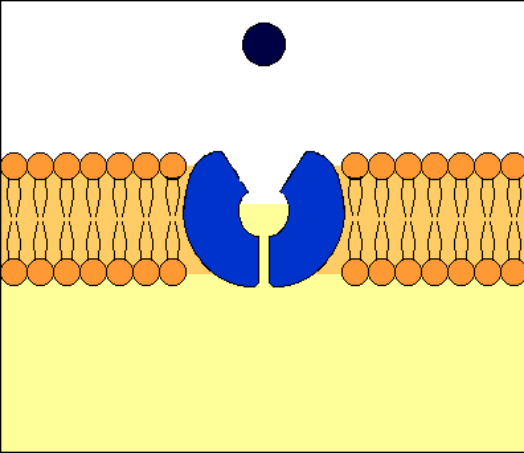
- **Passive** – down concentration gradient - energy-independent.
- **Like enzymes** - bind and transport substrate molecules, **ONE** at a time.
- A rate of solute movement across the membrane is **saturable**.



- **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.

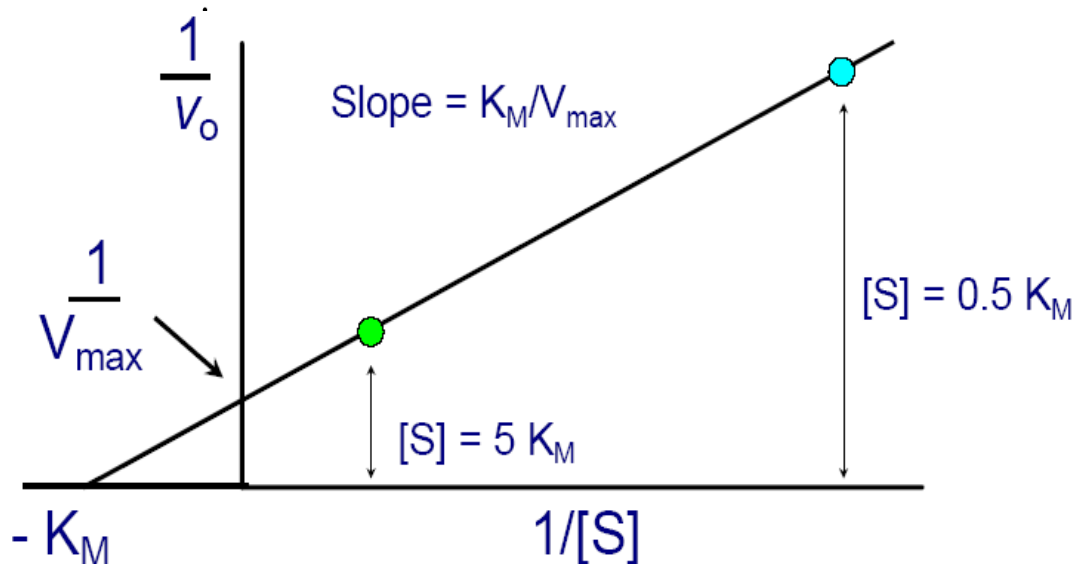
Michaelis-Menten equation

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

Dissociation constant

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

Michaelis complex



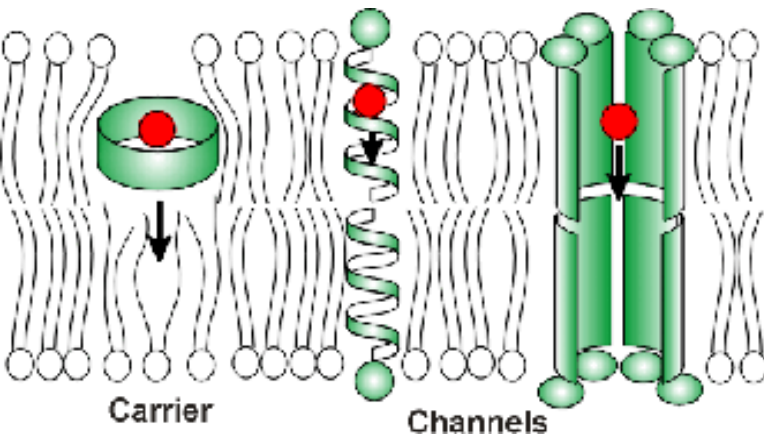
$$\frac{1}{v_0} = \frac{K_M}{V_{\max}} \times \frac{1}{[S]} + \frac{1}{V_{\max}}$$

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.



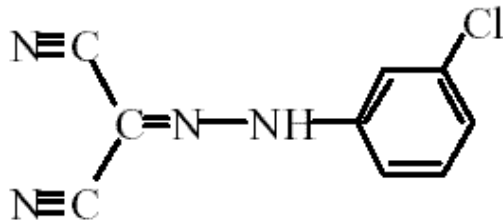
Two basic types: mobile carriers & pores

- *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*

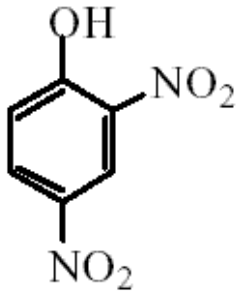
Classification of ionophores

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

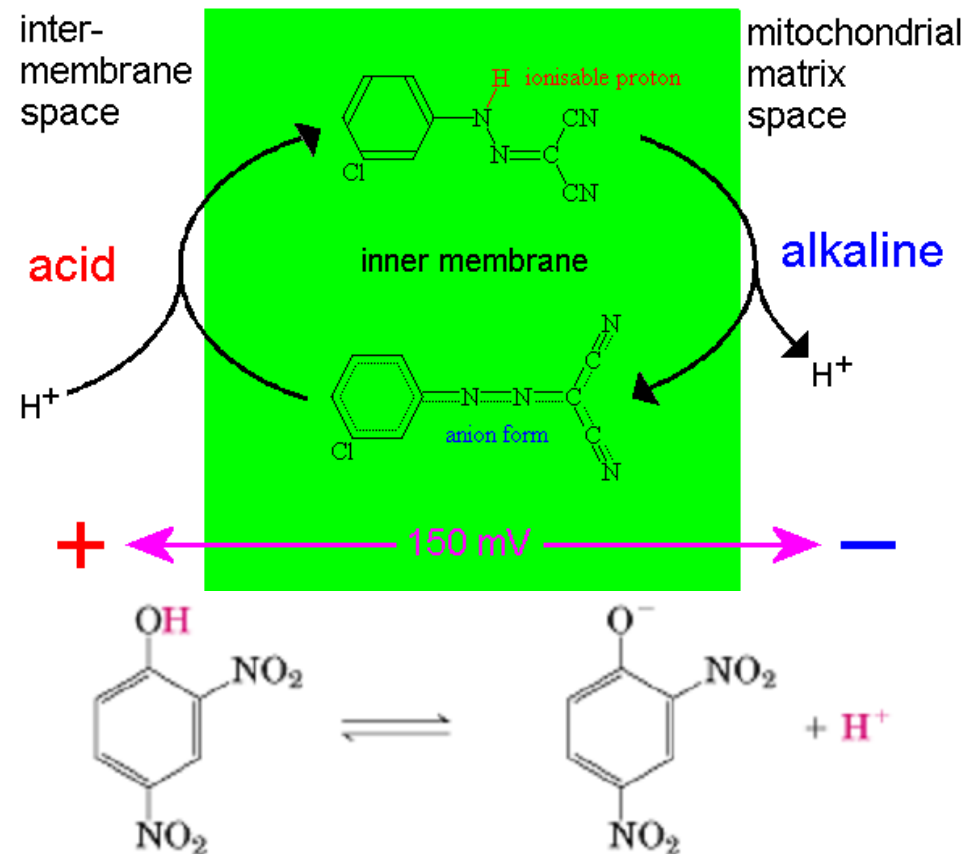
Protonophores



Carbonylcyanide m-chlorophenyl hydrazone (CCCP)



2,4-Dinitrophenol (DNP)

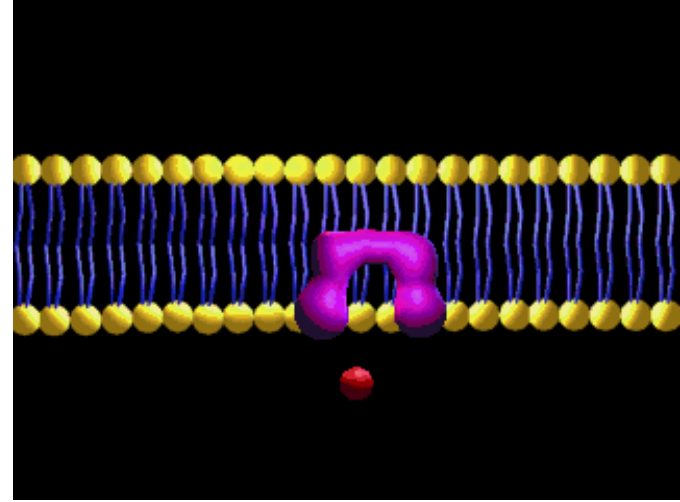
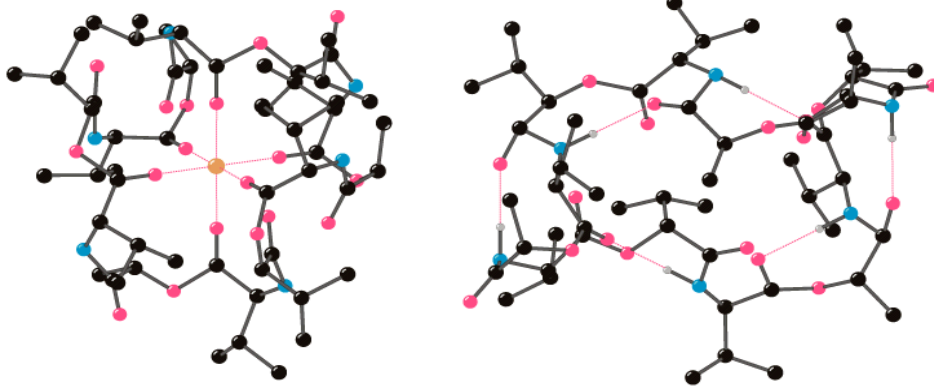


Both DNP and CCCP have a dissociable proton (weak acids) and are hydrophobic.

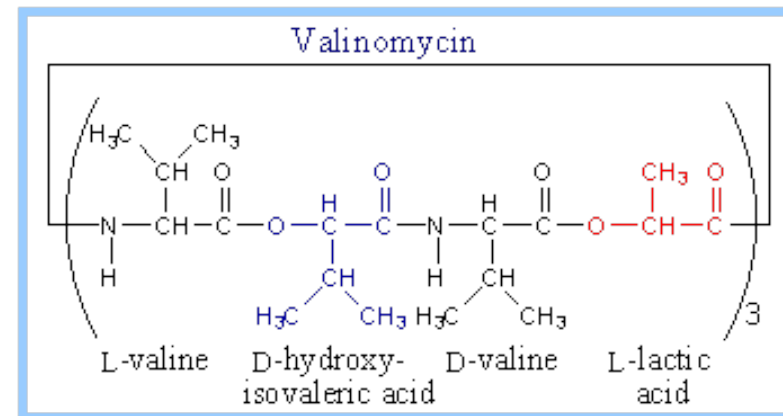
$$\psi_m = \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left(\frac{[H^+]_{out}}{[H^+]_{in}} \right)$$

At the equilibrium

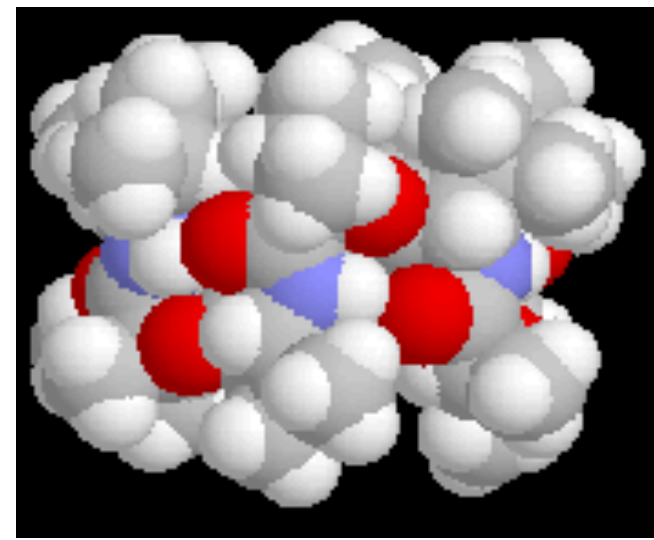
Valinomycin – neutral ionophore



- A dodecadepsipeptide (has both peptide and ester bonds). It is a cyclic structure composed of 4-unit sequence repeated three times
- A potassium ionophore – highly selective
- Increases K-permeability up to 10,000 K-ions/sec
- Destroys K^+ -gradient without affecting ΔpH



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

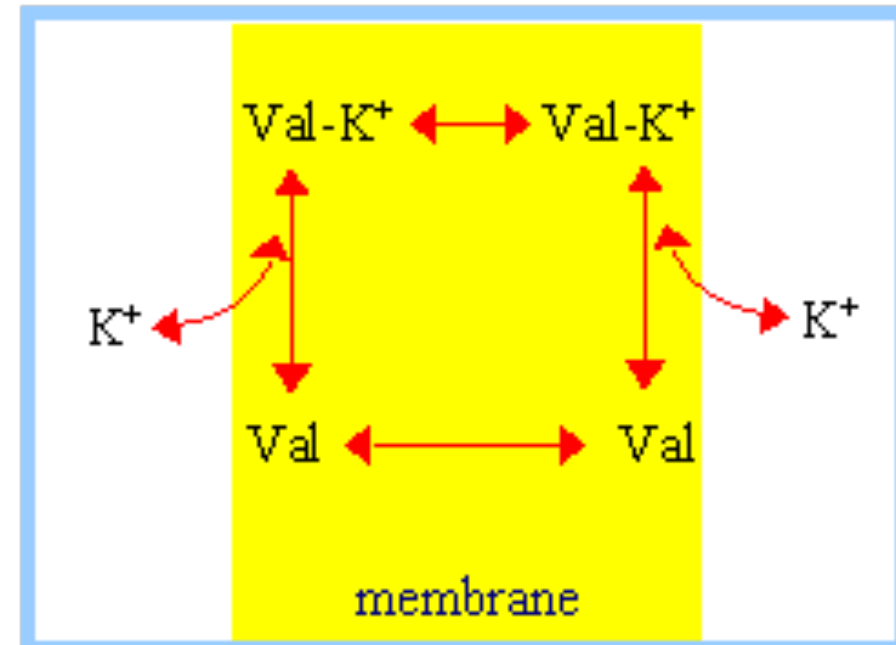


**K^+ is 6-coordinated
when in complex with
Valinomycin.**

K^+

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

✚ It depends on the membrane potential.

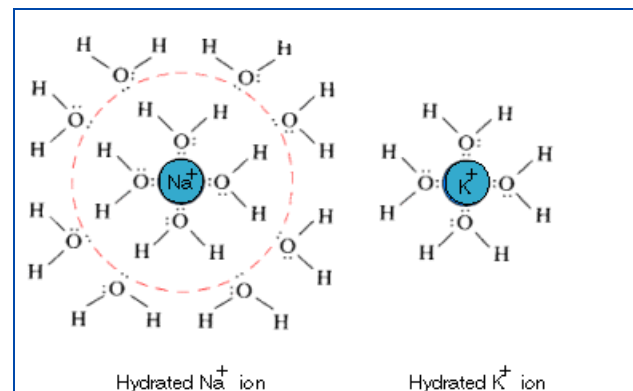


The selectivity of valinomycin for K^+

*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, ΔG (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^+

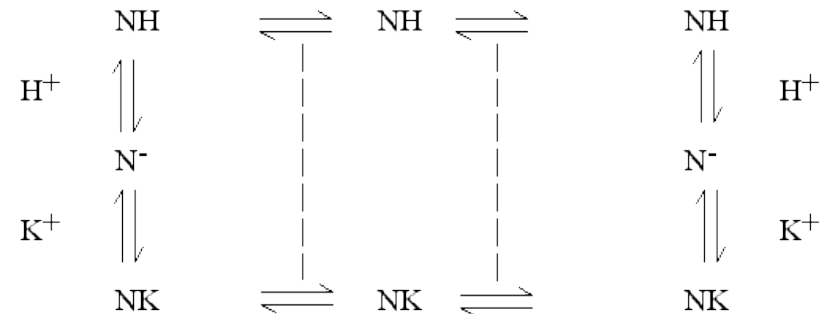
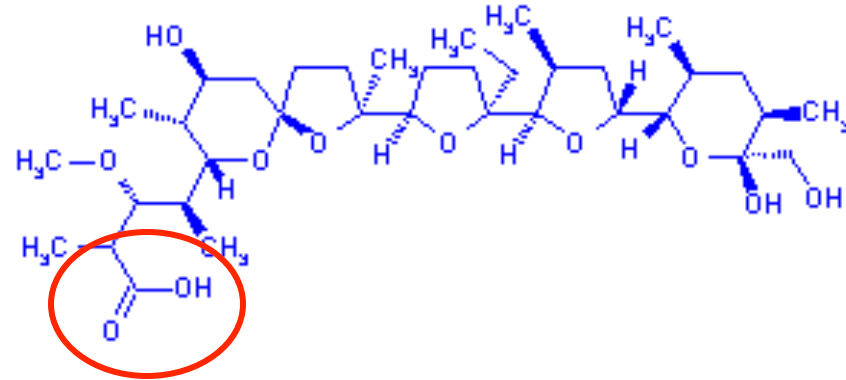
The carboxylic ionophores -Nigericin

✚ 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.



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

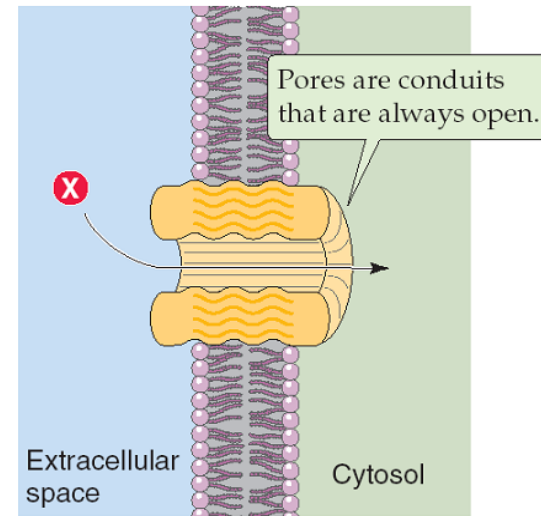
$$\Delta G = 0$$

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

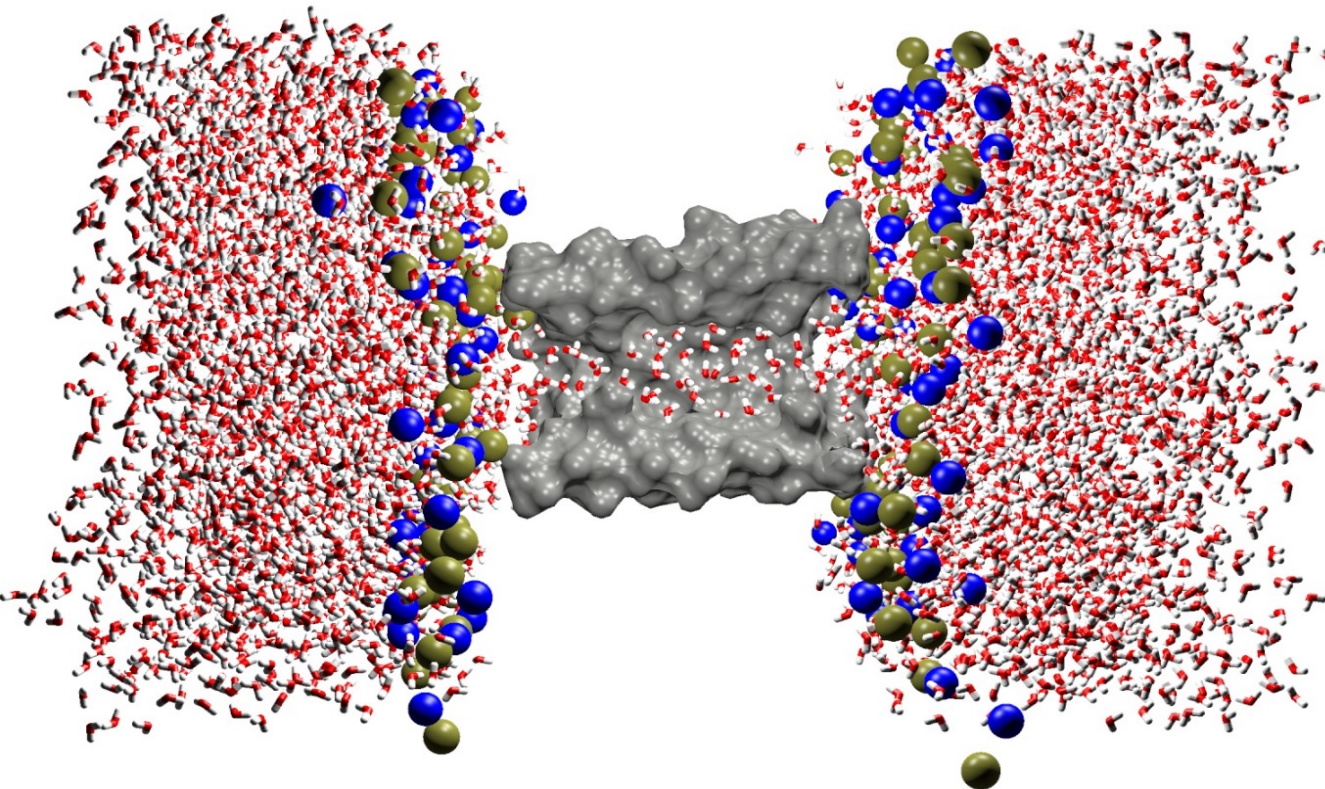
Nigericin will reach equilibrium when the $[H^+]$ and $[K^+]$ gradients are proportional.

Pores

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

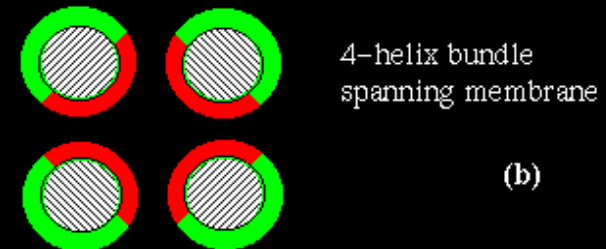
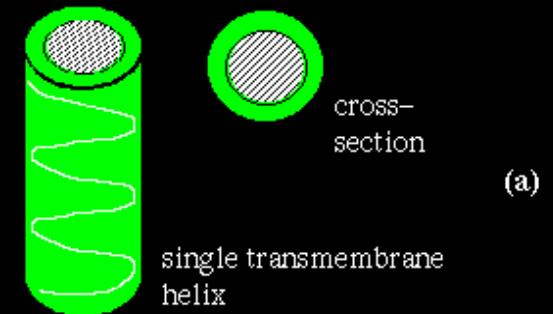
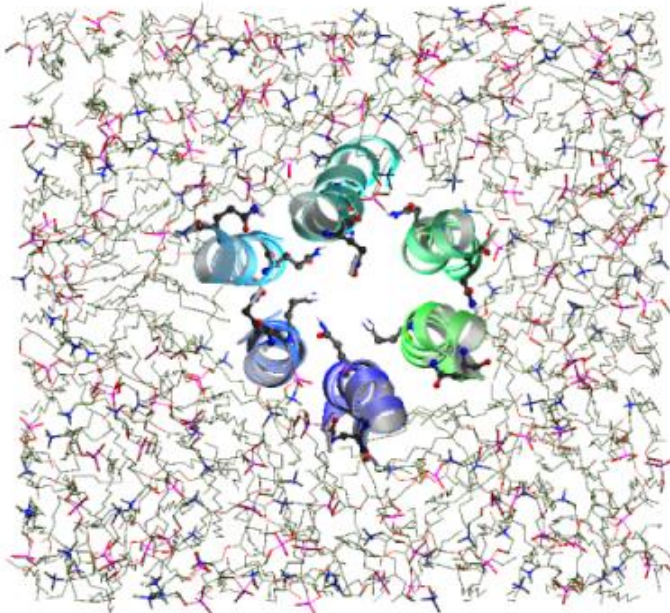
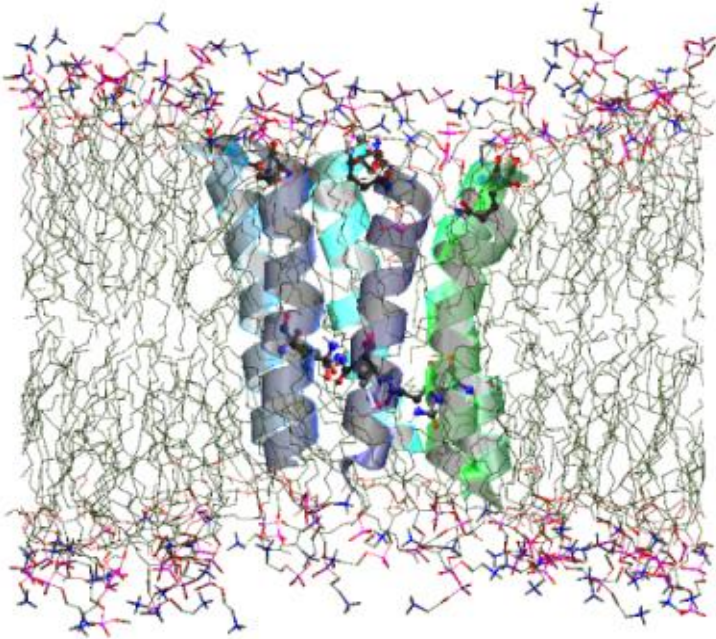


*Pore
(non-gated channel)*



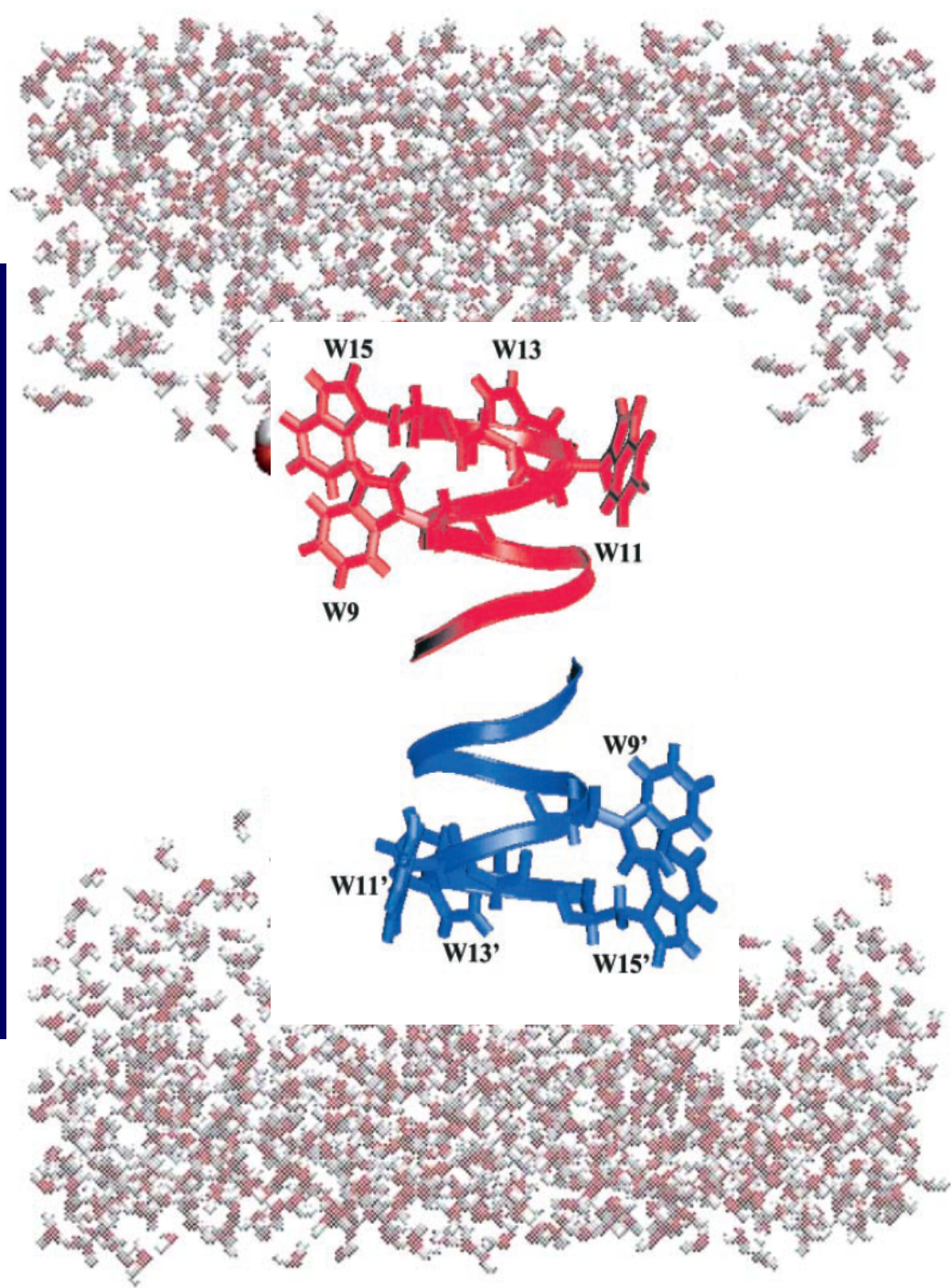
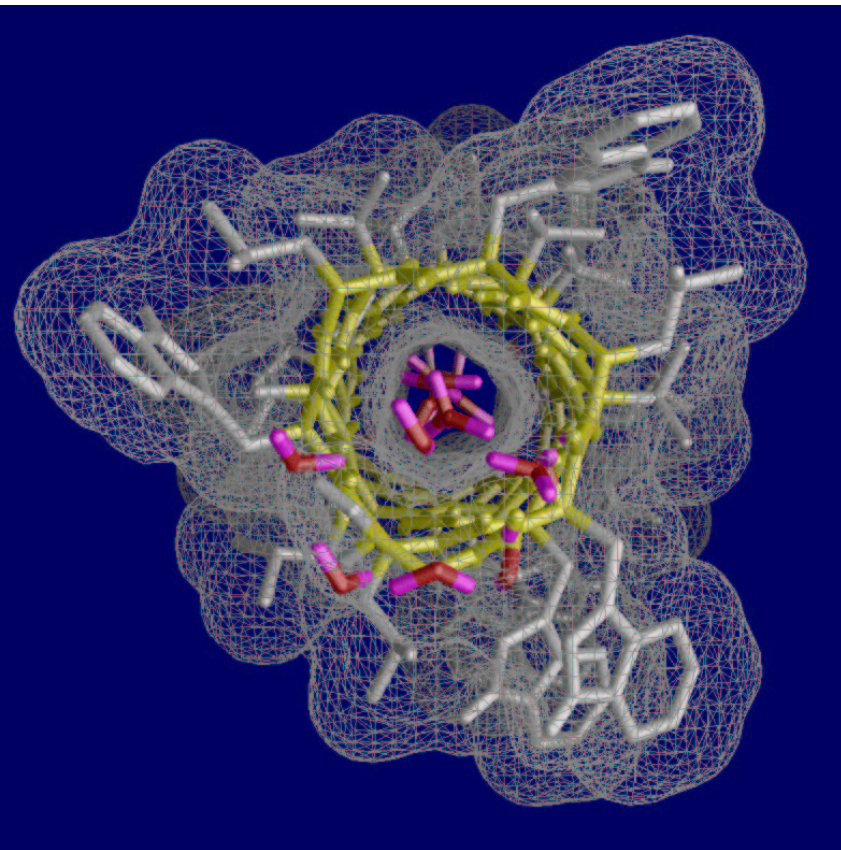
Alamethicin – a weakly selective channel

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

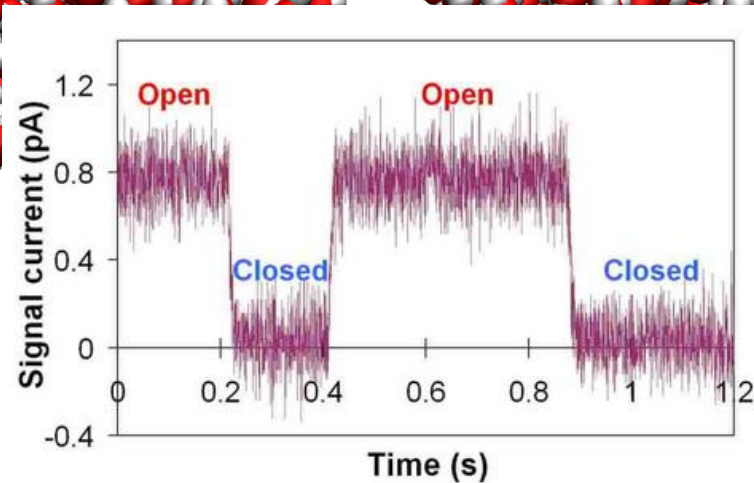
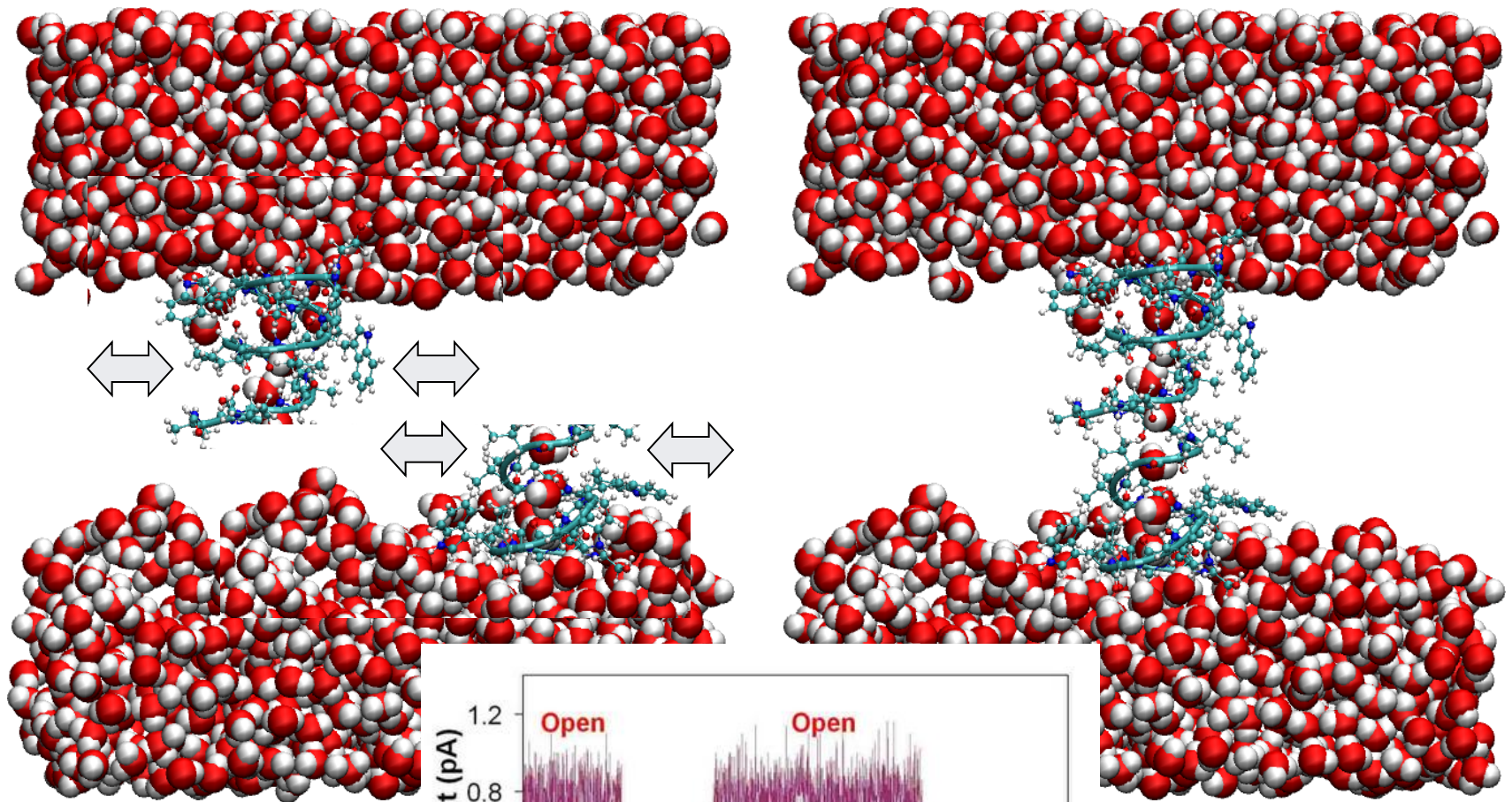


■ hydrophobic surface
■ hydrophilic surface

Gramicidins

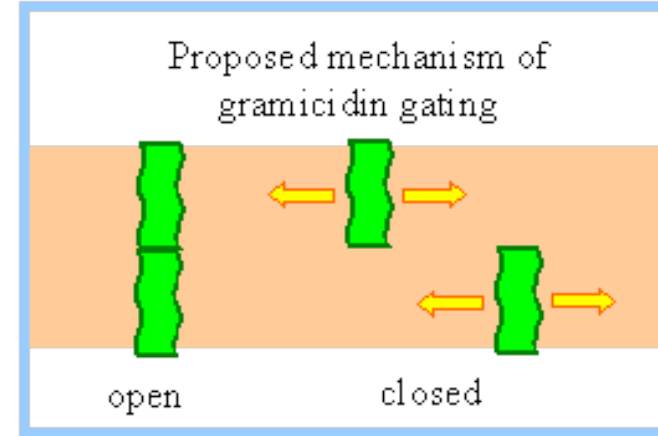
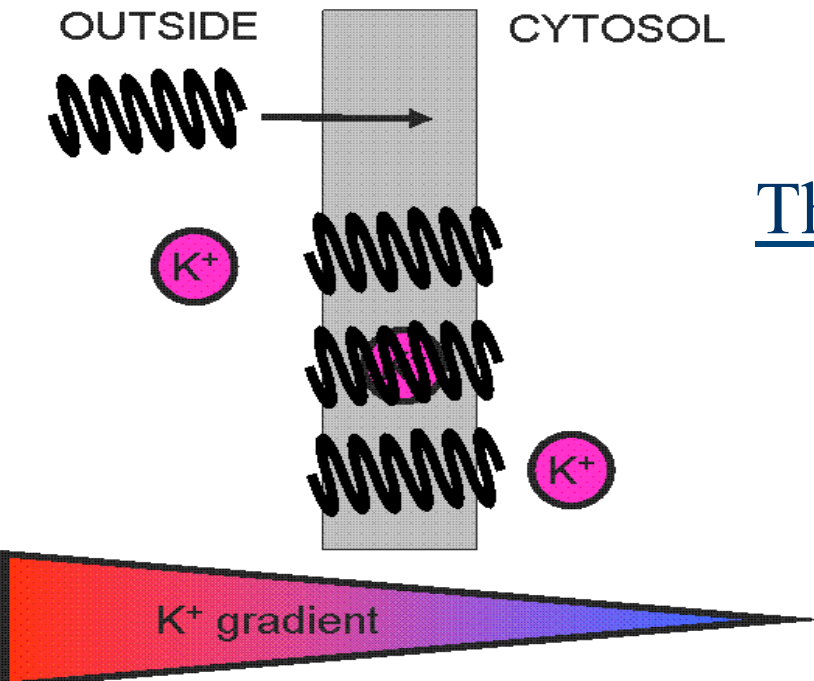
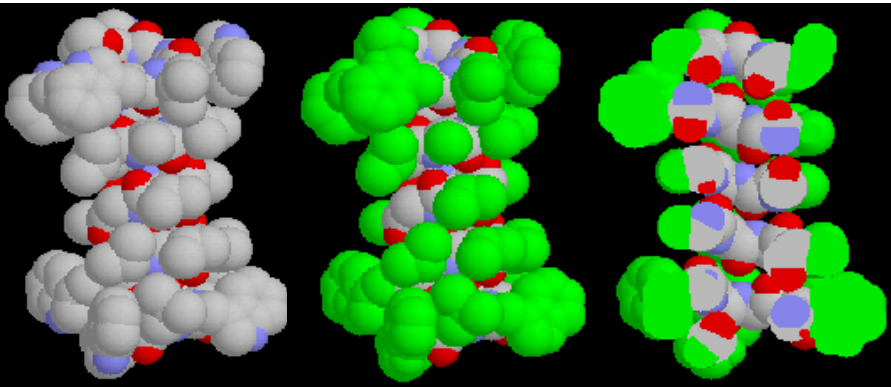


Gramicidin A: a diffusive carrier that forms pores



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:

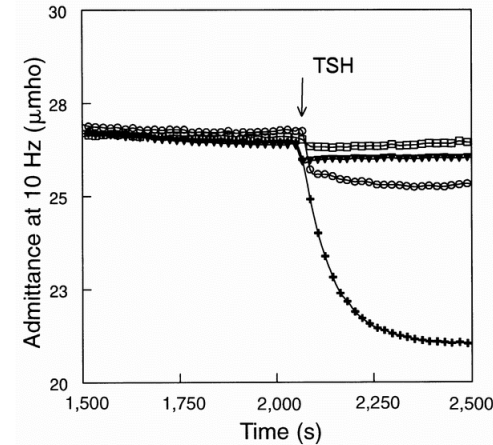
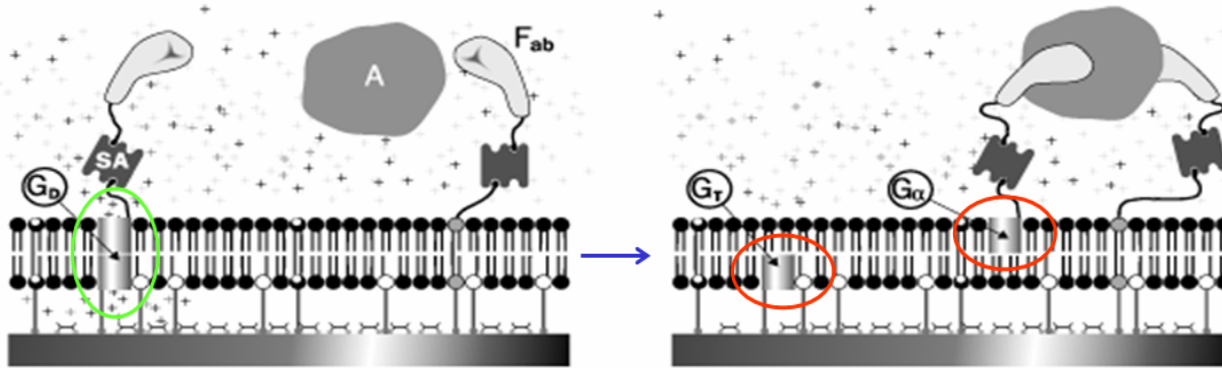
***valinomycin* (carrier) transports up to 10^4 K⁺/sec**

***gramicidin* (channel) permeability is up to 10^7 K⁺/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

