A Tale of Two Channels

The 2003 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded to Peter Agre and Rod McKinnon, for their work on the water channel (aquaporin) and the potassium channel, respectively. The fascinating stories of these proteins are told in the images shown here.

Aquaporin passes a single column of water, while excluding protons.

The K⁺ channel --- very fast, and selective

Exploding frog eggs.....

Dehydrating K⁺ ions.....