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The cover illustration shows the structure of the outer membrane porin MspA from the soil bacterium *Mycobacter smegmatis*. Mycobacteria, which have an unusual outer membrane, are considered a third group equidistant from the Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria. The MspA protein consists of eight subunits, forming a goblet-like structure around a single central channel. The upper part of the goblet consists of eight rim domains. The lower part contains two consecutive β -barrels with $8 \times 2 = 16$ strands forming the stem and the base regions of the goblet. For details about crystallization and structure, see the chapter by G.E. Schulz.

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