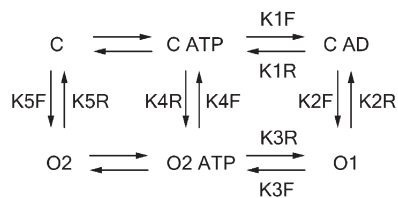


SUPPLEMENTAL DISCUSSION

Semiquantitative analysis of an equilibrium gating scheme for hydrolysis-deficient CFTR channels



(SCHEME S1)

As mentioned in Discussion, once ATP hydrolysis is abolished (e.g., in E1371S), the transitions between the remaining six states in Fig. 5 obey the principle of microscopic reversibility (Scheme S1), which means the product of the forward rates has to be equal to the product of the reverse rates in a closed loop (e.g., $K1F \cdot K2F \cdot K3F \cdot K4F = K1R \cdot K2R \cdot K3R \cdot K4R$). Thus, the stability of the NBD dimer in the open state would be represented by

$$\frac{K3F}{K3R} = \frac{K1R \cdot K2R \cdot K4R}{K1F \cdot K2F \cdot K4F} \tag{S1}$$

Some of the values in Eq. S1 can be roughly estimated: As demonstrated in a previous study (Bompadre et al., 2007), G551D-CFTR, a disease-associated mutation, does not respond to ATP. Because the lack of a side chain at position 551 is critical for hydrogen bond formation between the negatively charged phosphate group of ATP and the backbone nitrogen in the signature sequence of an NBD dimer of ABC proteins (Dawson and Locher, 2006; Oldham et al., 2007; Ward et al., 2007), one can safely infer that this complete abolition of ATP responsiveness by the G551D mutation is not caused by a deficit in ATP binding but by an obliteration of NBD dimerization (i.e., $C \text{ ATP} \rightarrow C \text{ AD}$ transition). The fact that ATP does not elicit measurable response in the G551D mutant channel then indicates $K5F/K5R \cong K4F/K4R$ in Scheme S1. Thus, CFTR is not a classical ligand-gated channel but instead an NBD dimerization-gated channel.

Because the spontaneous openings occur rarely for WT-CFTR ($K5R = 0.005 \text{ s}^{-1}$) and the closing rate of the spontaneous opening ($K5F$) is $\sim 2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ (Bompadre et al., 2005a,b), $K5R/K5F = 0.0025$ and the value of $K4R/K4F$ must be equally small. In the presence of saturating [ATP], the ATP-induced channel opening ($C \text{ ATP} \rightarrow C$

$\text{AD} \rightarrow O1$) is a much faster process that takes place within hundreds of milliseconds in WT-CFTR (presumably also in E1371S-CFTR). $K1F$ ($C \text{ ATP} \rightarrow C \text{ AD}$) and $K2F$ ($C \text{ AD} \rightarrow O1$) are required to be faster than $\sim 1 \text{ s}^{-1}$, whereas the backward rate $K1R$ ($C \text{ AD} \rightarrow C \text{ ATP}$) should not be $\gg K2F$ for actualizing the ATP-induced opening rate within hundreds of milliseconds. On the other hand, channel closing in hydrolysis-deficient mutants after washing out ATP is extremely slow (e.g., a relaxation time constant $>50 \text{ s}$ for E1371S-CFTR) (Bompadre et al., 2005a,b). This suggests that either $K2R$ or $K1R/K2F$ is very small. To actualize a relaxation time constant of $\sim 50 \text{ s}$ after washing out ATP, considering that $K2F$ should be $\sim 1 \text{ s}^{-1}$ or faster, the value of $K2R \cdot (K1R/K2F)$ could be roughly approximated as $\sim 0.02 \text{ s}^{-1}$ or smaller.

Collectively,

$$\frac{K3F}{K3R} = \frac{K1R \cdot K2R \cdot K4R}{K1F \cdot K2F \cdot K4F} = \left(\frac{K1R \cdot K2R}{K2F} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{K1F} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{K4R}{K4F} \right) \leq \sim 0.0005.$$

That is, the NBD dimer of an open channel is exceedingly stable without ATP hydrolysis. We hence surmise that for WT-CFTR, ATP hydrolysis provides the energy to disrupt the minimum energy state to enact a speedy gating cycle.

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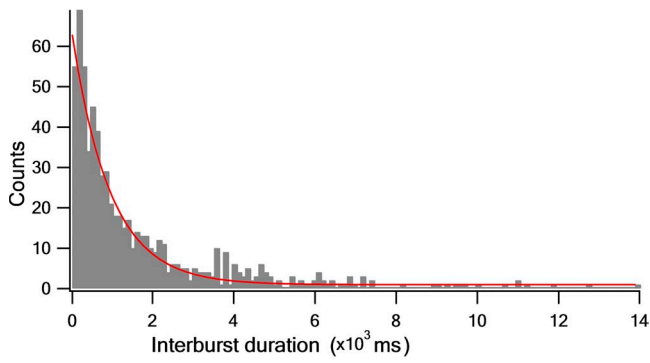


Figure S1. The interburst dwell-time histogram for R352C-CFTR. The histogram was fit with a single-exponential function and yielded a time constant of 944 ms.

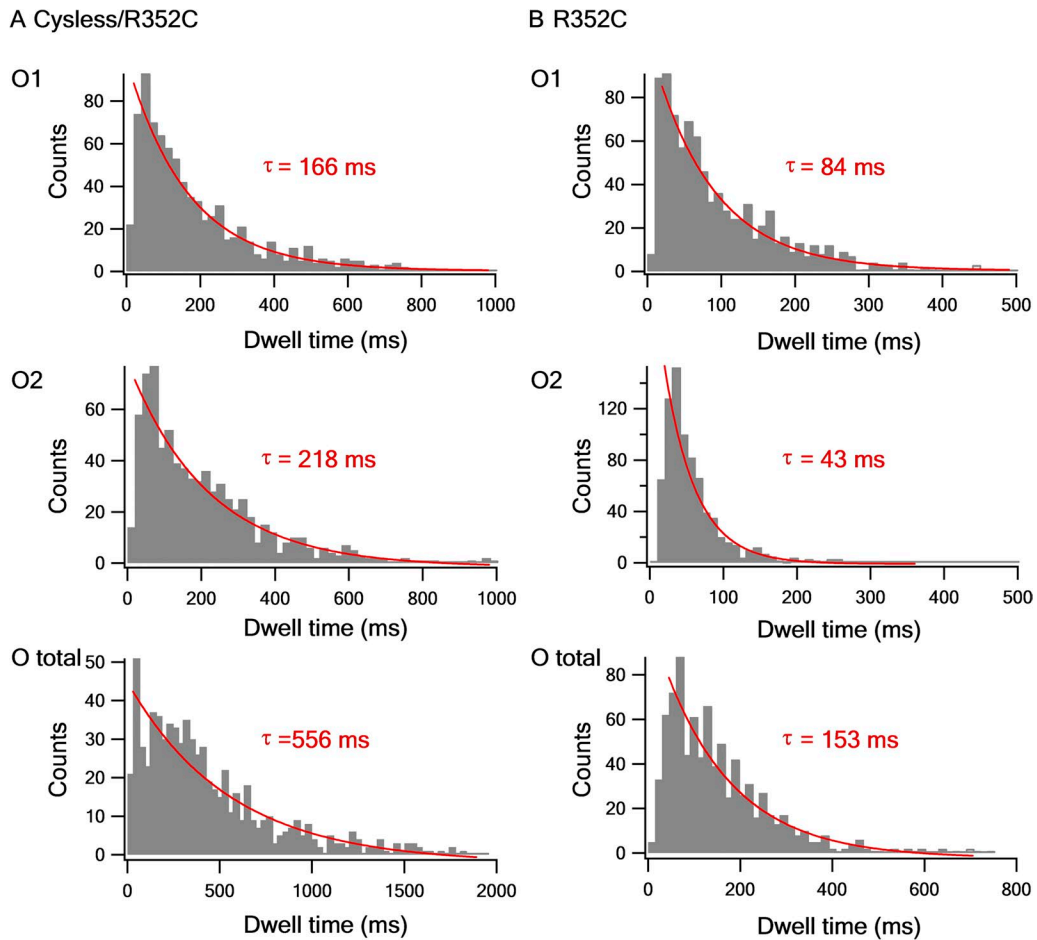


Figure S2. Dwell-time histogram for O1 and O2 states and opening burst in Cysless/R352C- and R352C-CFTR. (A and B) Dwell-time histograms of the O1 and O2 states and the opening burst (O total) for Cysless/R352C-CFTR (A) and R352C-CFTR (B). The histograms were fit with single-exponential functions, and the resulting time constant is marked next to each fitting curve.

A R352C/W401F

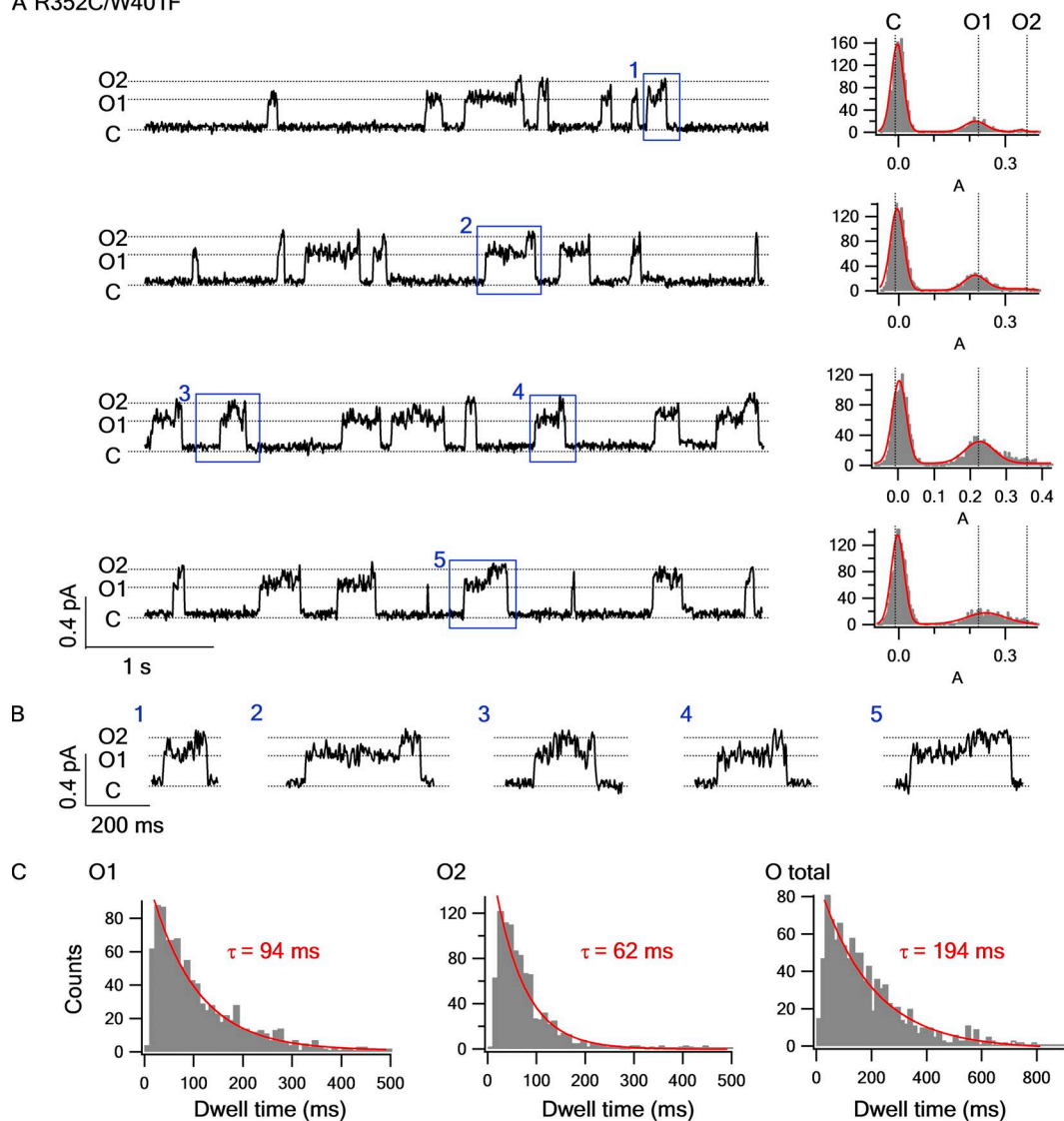


Figure S3. Gating kinetics of W401F/R352C-CFTR. (A) Representative traces and amplitude histograms for W401F/R352C-CFTR in the presence of 2.75 mM ATP. Consistent with the observation for R352C-CFTR, most of the opening bursts follow the C→O1→O2→C gating pattern. However, more reentry events were seen in W401F/R352C-CFTR (Table 1). (B) Sample opening events expanded from the traces in A. (C) Dwell-time histograms of the O1 and O2 states and the opening burst (O total). The histograms were fit with single-exponential functions, and the time constants are marked.