Supporting Information

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Equations

SANG SANG

Capacitance data were fit to the first derivative of a two-state Boltzmann function

$$C_m = Q_{\max} \frac{ze}{kT} \frac{b}{(1+b)^2} + C_{lin}, \ b = \exp\left(\frac{-ze(V_m - V_h)}{kT}\right)$$

where Q_{max} is the maximum nonlinear charge moved, V_h is voltage at peak capacitance or equivalently, at half maximum charge transfer, V_m is membrane potential, z is valence, C_{lin} is linear membrane capacitance, e is electron charge, k is Boltzmann's constant, and T is absolute temperature.

Model differential equations are

$$X_{o} \stackrel{k_{1}}{\underset{k_{2}}{\longrightarrow}} X_{c} \stackrel{\alpha_{0}}{\underset{\beta_{0}}{\longrightarrow}} X \stackrel{\alpha}{\underset{\beta}{\longrightarrow}} C$$

$$\frac{dX_{o}}{dt} = X_{c} \cdot k_{2} - X_{o} \cdot k_{1}$$

$$\frac{dX_{c}}{dt} = X_{o} \cdot k_{1} + X \cdot \beta_{0} - X_{c} \cdot \alpha_{0} - X_{c} \cdot k_{2}$$

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = X_{c} \cdot \alpha_{0} + C \cdot \beta - X \cdot \alpha - X \cdot \beta_{0}$$

$$\frac{dC}{dt} = X \cdot \alpha - C \cdot \beta.$$



Fig. S1. Kinetic model shows similar NLC behavior to that observed in OHCs. (*A*) V_h shift results from prepulse. (*B*) Depolarizing shifts and decrease in NLC result from reduction in intracellular chloride. (*C*) Heating shifts V_h to depolarizing levels. (*D*) Step voltage commands induce an immediate jump in C_m followed by a relaxation. See text for details. (*E*) Kinetic model produces a phase lag between V_m and eM. The lag observed with 10 mV AC stimulation is voltage and chloride dependent (*F*). It is also dependent on intermediate gateway transition rate (*G*), illustrating that the actual biophysical stretched exponential rate will provide wide-ranging frequency-dependent phase lags.



Fig. 52. Phase lag in eM. OHC with 1 mM chloride in/out. Sinusoidal voltage (*Top*) stimulation elicits a rectified mechanical response (*Middle*). Bottom shows Lissajous of eM vs. Vm, indicating a phase lag of about 0.1 rad. An absence of phase lag would produce an overlapping line. Similar results were obtained for 2 OHCs at 24 and 48 Hz.