Mechanochemical properties of human myosin-1C are modulated by isoform-specific differences in the N-terminal extension

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Sven Giese*, Theresia Reindl*, Patrick Y. A. Reinke*, Lilach Zattelman*, Roman Fedorov*, Arnon Henn*, Manuel H. Taft1,2,*, and Dietmar J. Manstein1,2,*

From the 1Institute for Biophysical Chemistry, Hannover Medical School, Fritz-Hartmann-Centre for Medical Research, and 2Division for Structural Biochemistry, Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany; 3Faculty of Biology, and 4Russell Berrie Nanotechnology Institute, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel

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Myosin-1C is a single-headed, short-tailed member of the myosin class I subfamily that supports a variety of actin-based functions in the cytosol and nucleus. In vertebrates, alternative splicing of the MYO1C gene leads to the production of three isoforms, myosin-1C0, myosin-1C16, and myosin-1C35, that carry N-terminal extensions of different lengths. However, it is not clear how these extensions affect the chemomechanical coupling of human myosin-1C isoforms. Here, we report on the motor activity of the different myosin-1C isoforms measuring the unloaded velocities of constructs lacking the C-terminal lipid-binding domain on nitrocellulose-coated glass surfaces and full-length constructs on reconstituted, supported lipid bilayers. The higher yields of purified proteins obtained with constructs lacking the lipid-binding domain allowed a detailed characterization of the individual kinetic steps of human myosin-1C isoforms in their productive interaction with nucleotides and filamentous actin. Isoform-specific differences include 18-fold changes in the maximum power output per myosin-1C motor and 4-fold changes in the velocity and the resistive force at which maximum power output occurs. Our results support a model in which the isoform-specific N-terminal extensions affect chemomechanical coupling by combined steric and allosteric effects, thereby reducing both the length of the working stroke and the rate of ADP release in the absence of external loads by a factor of 2 for myosin-1C35. As the large change in maximum power output shows, the functional differences between the isoforms are further amplified by the presence of external loads.

Myosin-1C connects cell and vesicle membranes with actin-rich structures of the cytoskeleton to support critical cellular processes at multiple intracellular locations. Myosin-1C has been shown to contribute to the adaptation response in sensory hair cells (1), to act as a cofactor of the transcriptional machinery by interacting with RNA polymerase I and II in the nucleus (2, 3), to support the delivery of organelles to membranes such as the insulin-induced translocation of GLUT4-containing vesicles to plasma membrane (4), and to play a role in the formation of membrane extensions and the regulation of cellular tension (5, 6). All myosins share a generic motor domain, which contains an active site and an actin-binding region. Members of different myosin classes have evolved structural modifications to adapt kinetic and mechanical properties to generate force and motion according to their physiological function (7, 8). Myosin-1C is a member of the short-tailed class I myosin subfamily (9). Its generic motor domain is followed by a neck region that serves as a lever arm and consists of three IQ motifs and a post-IQ domain (Fig. 1A). IQ1 and IQ2 each bind one calmodulin, while a third calmodulin is bound to both IQ3 and the post-IQ domain (10). The C-terminal 176 residues form the rigid globular tail homology region 1 (TH1), which is found in all members of the class I subfamily. The TH1 domain contains a generic 56-residue, lipid membrane-binding pleckstrin homology (PH) domain in its center. In humans, alternative splicing of the MYO1C gene leads to the production of three isoforms, which differ in the length of their N-terminal extension (NTE) (3, 11). Compared to myosin-1C0, the isoforms myosin-1C16 and myosin-1C35 contain 16 and 35 additional amino acids at their N terminus (Fig. 1B). The three human myosin-1C splice isoforms are otherwise identical in their structural organization, undergo analogous post-translational modifications, and are capable of interacting with the same partner proteins (12, 13). In rodents and primates, myosin-1C0 and myosin-1C16 isoforms are ubiquitously produced. In contrast, myosin-1C35 shows a tissue-dependent expression profile, suggesting a role in tissue-specific functions (14, 15). Isoform-specific functions of myosin-1C include roles of myosin-1C16 and myosin-1C35 as nuclear cofactors in chromatin remodeling and transcription activation and a role of myosin-1C16 in plasma membrane tension adaptation (3, 6, 16–18). The underlying regulatory mechanisms that support isoform-specific functional behavior and controlled partitioning between the nucleus and cytoplasm have not been identified. It has been...
shown that the different myosin-1C isoforms can at least partially complement or replace each other in their function (13). Biochemical studies show that the myosin-1C35 isoform produced in rodents is a low-duty-ratio myosin under low-load conditions (19, 20). Biochemical studies on murine myosin-1C show that external loads increase the duty cycle by means of a force-sensitive mechanism (21).

In a previous study aimed at dissecting the impact of the 16- and 35-residue NTEs of myosin-1C16 and myosin-1C35, we described the kinetic properties of the full-length myosin-1C splice isoforms, provided a detailed model of the differential distribution among the isoforms with respect to the close and open state of the actomyosin ADP-bound state during cycling, and related these findings to a structural model where the NTEs form a compact structural domain that crosses the cleft between the converter domain and the calmodulin bound to IQ-repeat 1, thereby enabling a contact between the 35-residue NTE and the relay loop (22). Thus, the NTEs affect the specific nucleotide-binding properties of myosin-1C splice isoforms, adding to their kinetic diversity (22). Here, we describe the isoform-specific changes in the enzymatic and motor properties of the different myosin-1C isoforms by using both full-length and TH1-truncated myosin-1C constructs (Fig. 1C). Our results show distinct differences for ADP release, duty cycle, filament sliding velocity, and force-sensing behavior between the isoforms. Furthermore, we observed that in the presence of saturating concentrations of the myosin-1C35-derived peptide NTE35, the sliding velocity of the Myo1C0-ΔTH1-NTE35 complex closely resembles that of Myo1C35-ΔTH1. The Myo1C0-ΔTH1-NTE35 complex propelled actin filaments at an intermediate velocity. The changes in motor activity mediated by the different NTEs are consistent with the different roles of myosin-1C isoforms, which range from slow transporter to molecular tension holder (1, 6, 18, 19).

Results

Expression and purification of human Myo1C

Constructs for the recombinant production of Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and Myo1C35-ΔTH1 were coproduced with calmodulin in the baculovirus Sf9 system and purified to near homogeneity (>95 % purity). Typical yields were 1.6 mg of Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and 0.3 mg of Myo1C35-ΔTH1 from 2 × 10^9 Sf9 cells. The three full-length isoforms of human myosin-1C (Myo1C0-FL, Myo1C16-FL, and Myo1C35-FL) were produced with yields of approximately 0.1 mg of homogeneous protein from 2 × 10^9 HEK293SF-3F6 cells.

Isoform-dependent changes in actin-activated ATP turnover

Basal and actin-activated ATP turnover were initially measured at 37 °C. The rate of ATP turnover in the absence of actin (k_{basal}) differs approximately 2-fold for Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and Myo1C35-ΔTH1, with values of 0.009 ± 0.003 s⁻¹ and 0.004 ± 0.003 s⁻¹, respectively. The actin-activated steady-state ATPase activities of Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and Myo1C35-ΔTH1 were determined at actin concentrations ranging from 0 to 50 μM and fitting of the data to the Michaelis–Menten equation (Fig. 2A). K_{app,actin} is the actin concentration at half maximum activation of ATP turnover, and k_{cat} corresponds to the maximum value of ATP turnover in the presence of saturating actin concentrations. For both Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and Myo1C35-ΔTH1, k_{cat} corresponds to 0.37 ± 0.01 s⁻¹. Compared to the K_{app,actin} of 12.7 ± 0.7 μM measured with Myo1C0-ΔTH1, the K_{app,actin} of Myo1C35-ΔTH1 is increased 2-fold to 25.6 ± 1.8 μM (Fig. 2A and Table 1).

To obtain explicit solutions for the mechanism shown in Figure 3, we performed numerical integration by global fitting using rate constants determined in transient kinetic experiments (Table 2). As transient kinetic experiments were...
Figure 2. Isoform-specific differences in actin-activated Mg\(^{2+}\)-ATPase activity. A, steady-state actin-activated ATPase activity was measured at 37 °C with actin concentrations in the range from 0 to 50 μM. Error bars represent standard deviations from at least three measurements of each data point. B, global fitting simulations of the ATP turnover of Myo1C-ΔTH1 isoforms in the presence of 0 to 300 μM actin and at 20 °C. The parameters \( k_{\text{app,actin}} \) and \( k_{\text{cat}}/k_{\text{app,actin}} \) were obtained by fitting the data to the Michaelis–Menten equation. \( k_{\text{cat}} \) defines \( k_{\text{app,actin}} \) plateau values define \( k_{\text{cat}} \) and \( k_{\text{cat}}/k_{\text{app,actin}} \) is defined by the initial slope of the fit curve at concentrations of actin much lower than \( k_{\text{app,actin}} \). Results are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1

| Parameter | Signal and measured parameter | Myo1C-ΔTH1 | Myo1C\(^{35}\)-ΔTH1 |
|-----------|--------------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Steady-state ATPase (37 °C) | NADH assay; \( k_{0} \) | 0.009 ± 0.003 | 0.004 ± 0.003 |
| | NADH assay; \( K_{0.5} \) | 12.7 ± 0.7 | 25.6 ± 1.8 |
| | NADH assay; \( k_{\text{max}} \) | 0.37 ± 0.01 | 0.37 ± 0.01 |
| | NADH assay; initial slope | 0.024 ± 0.001 | 0.012 ± 0.001 |
| | NADH assay; \( K_{0.5} \) | 9.8 ± 0.1 | 17.9 ± 0.1 |
| | NADH assay; \( k_{\text{max}} \) | 0.09 ± 0.01 | 0.09 ± 0.01 |
| | NADH assay; initial slope | 0.008 ± 0.001 | 0.005 ± 0.001 |
| Active site isomerization (20 °C) | Pyrene-labeled actin; \( A_{\text{total}}/A_{\text{slow}} \) | 0.90 ± 0.03 | 3.70 ± 0.20 |
| | Pyrene-labeled actin, \( k_{\text{cat}}/k_{0} \) (calc.) | 4.56 ± 0.13 | 1.05 ± 0.11 |
| ATP binding (20 °C) | Pyrene-labeled actin, \( K_{\text{5,5,fast}} \) | 154 ± 31 | 405 ± 79 |
| | Pyrene-labeled actin, \( k_{\text{cat}}/k_{\text{0.5,fast}} \) (calc.) | 37.1 ± 1.6 | 37.0 ± 2.0 |
| | Pyrene-labeled actin, initial slope | 0.16 ± 0.01 | 0.07 ± 0.01 |
| | Tryptophan, \( k_{\text{max}} \) | 74.6 ± 1.6 | 75.7 ± 0.8 |
| Actin binding and release (20 °C) | (in the absence of nucleotides) | Pyrene-labeled actin, slope | 1.46 ± 0.07 | 2.22 ± 0.08 |
| | \( k_{A} \) (μM \(^{-1}\) s\(^{-1}\)) | Pyrene-labeled actin, \( k_{\text{0.5,slow}} \) | 0.019 ± 0.001 | 0.037 ± 0.001 |
| | \( k_{A} \) (s\(^{-1}\)) | \( k_{\text{A}}/k_{A,0} \) (calc.) | 13.7 ± 0.1 | 16.9 ± 0.2 |
| Phosphate release (20 °C) | MDCC-PBP | 0.021 ± 0.001 | 0.010 ± 0.001 |
| | NADH assay, global fit | 0.10 ± 0.01 | 0.10 ± 0.01 |
| ADP binding and release | Pyrene-labeled actin, \( A_{\text{slow}}/A_{\text{total}} \) | 0.46 ± 0.08 | 0.23 ± 0.03 |
| | Pyrene-labeled actin, \( k_{\text{min,slow}}/k_{\text{min,fast}} \) | 1.59 ± 0.07/1.78 ± 0.1 | 0.87 ± 0.03/3.8 ± 0.1 |
| | \( k_{A} \) (μM \(^{-1}\) s\(^{-1}\)) | \( k_{\text{A}}/K_{A} \) (calc.) | 3.45 ± 0.75 | 3.78 ± 0.62 |
| | Duty ratio (20 °C) | \( k_{A} \) (calc.) | 0.004 ± 0.002 | 0.075 ± 0.001 |
| Motor properties (37 °C) | Sliding velocity (nm s\(^{-1}\)) | \( K_{p} \) (s\(^{-1}\)) | 5.2 ± 0.2 | 3.7 ± 0.2 |
| | Frictional load assay | 8.3 ± 0.3 | 3.7 ± 0.2 |
| | Frictional load assay | 7.8 ± 0.4 | 3.7 ± 0.1 |
| | Frictional load assay | ~0.05 | ~0.003 |
| | Frictional load assay | ~2.0 | ~0.45 |

stopped-flow buffer and steady-state assay buffer: 25 mM Hepes pH 7.5, 50 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl\(_2\), 0.5 mM DTT; Motility assay buffer: 20 mM imidazole pH 7.5, 50 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl\(_2\), 2.0 mM EDTA.

a derived from the initial slope of the plot \( k_{\text{obs,actin}} \) versus [ATP].

b derived from the slope of the plot \( k_{\text{obs,actin}} \) versus [actin].

c in the presence of 5 μM F-actin at 20 °C.

d derived from the fit \( A_{\text{slow}}/A_{\text{total}} = [\text{ADP}]/(K_{A} + [\text{ADP}]) \).

e derived from Equation 1.

f based on the evaluation of Figure 8B and on the reported stall force for a single myosin-1C\(^{35}\) motor of ~5 pN (21), we estimate that in our assay approximately 120 motors interact productively per actin filament; single-motor parameters were derived from Equation 2, which was extended by a term representing frictional force.

performed at 20 °C, we performed additional measurements of actin-activated steady-state ATPase activities at this temperature (Table 1). In addition to the rate constants determined in transient kinetic experiments, we used the experimentally determined values for the apparent second-order rate constant for actin binding (\( k_{\text{cat}}/k_{\text{app,actin}} \)) as additional constraints during simulations, as they are well defined by the initial slope of the data fit to the Michaelis–Menten equation at
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**ATP-induced dissociation of myosin-1C from filamentous actin**

The dissociation of Myo1CΔTH1 and Myo1C35ΔTH1 from pyrene-labelled F-actin by ATP is accompanied by a biphasic increase in the fluorescence signal (Fig. 4A). The reaction is best fitted by two exponentials and was analyzed according to the model shown in Figure 3 (19, 24). The equilibrium constant $K_a$ for the transition from the A-M to A-M state is given by the ratio of fast to slow phase amplitude at saturating ATP concentrations (24). $K_a$ was determined with values of 0.90 ± 0.03 for Myo1CΔTH1 and 3.70 ± 0.20 for Myo1C35ΔTH1 (Fig. 4B).

**Table 2**

Kinetic parameters of human Myo1C-TH1 isoforms obtained by global fit simulation

| Individual reaction step | Nomenclature KinTek Explorer | Nomenclature used in this study | Units | Myo1CΔTH1 | Myo1C35ΔTH1 |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|-----------|-------------|
| AM + T ⇌ AMT             | $k_1$                         | $k_{1}$                         | μM$^{-1}$ s$^{-1}$ | 4.0       | 4.1         |
| AMT ⇌ AM'T               | $k_2$                         | $k_{1}$                         | s$^{-1}$          | 621       | 1650        |
| AM'T + A ⇌ AM'DP        | $k_3$                         | $k_{2}^{+}$                     | μM$^{-1}$ s$^{-1}$ | 156.0     | 405.0       |
| M'DP + A ⇌ AM'D + Pi    | $k_4$                         | $k_{3}^{+}$                     | s$^{-1}$          | 37.0      | 37.0        |
| AM + A ⇌ AM            | $k_5$                         | $k_{4}$                         | μM$^{-1}$ s$^{-1}$ | 10.1      | 10.1        |
| AM' + D ⇌ AM + D        | $k_6$                         | $k_{5}$                         | μM$^{-1}$ s$^{-1}$ | 75.0      | 75.0        |
| M + A ⇌ AM            | $k_7$                         | $k_{6}$                         | μM$^{-1}$ s$^{-1}$ | 8.53      | 26.6        |
| AM' + AM             | $k_8$                         | $k_{7}$                         | μM$^{-1}$ s$^{-1}$ | 10.8      | 22.2        |

Shown in red are the experimentally determined parameters measured by transient kinetic experiments that were used to constrain the simulation. Conditions used were 25 mM Hepes pH 7.5, 50 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl$_2$, 0.5 mM DTT at 20 °C.
Figure 4. ATP-induced dissociation of pyrene-labeled acto-Myo1C$^{0\text{-}\Delta TH1}$ and acto-Myo1C$^{35\text{-}\Delta TH1}$. A, pyrene fluorescence transients observed upon mixing 130 nM acto-Myo1C$^{0\text{-}\Delta TH1}$ isoforms with 0.03 or 3 mM ATP. All concentrations are given as final concentrations after rapid mixing. The averaged fluorescence transients are best described by double exponentials. $B$, ratio of slow to fast phase amplitudes ($A_{\text{slow}}/A_{\text{fast}}$) plotted against the ATP concentration. The data were fitted to a hyperbola in each case. The respective plateau values define the equilibrium constants for isomerization of the nucleotide-binding pocket $K_a$. $C$, the dependence of $k_{\text{obs,slow}}$ on ATP concentration was best fitted with a hyperbola in each case. The plateau values define the equilibrium constants for isomerization of the nucleotide-binding pocket $K_a$. $D$, similarly, the dependence of $k_{\text{obs,fast}}$ on ATP concentration is well described by hyperbolas for both isoforms. The best fits to $k_{\text{obs,fast}} = k_\text{A}[\text{ATP}]/(1 + K_\text{A}[\text{ATP}])$ are superimposed. The plateau values define near-identical values for $k_{\text{A}}$. The ATP concentration required for half-maximal saturation defines $(1/K_\text{A})$. Here, we observed a 2.6-fold difference between the values obtained for acto-Myo1C$^{0\text{-}\Delta TH1}$ and acto-Myo1C$^{35\text{-}\Delta TH1}$. Fitted parameters are summarized in Table 1. Error bars represent standard deviations from at least three determinations of each data point. The experimental curves in panel A correspond to the averaged signals from four independent measurements; A.U., arbitrary units. Lines and symbols are shown in red and blue for Myo1C$^{0\text{-}\Delta TH1}$ and Myo1C$^{35\text{-}\Delta TH1}$, respectively.

$k_{\text{A}}$ with values of 1.59 ± 0.07 s$^{-1}$ and 0.87 ± 0.03 s$^{-1}$ for acto-Myo1C$^{0\text{-}\Delta TH1}$ and acto-Myo1C$^{35\text{-}\Delta TH1}$, respectively (Fig. 5B). The ADP concentrations at which half-saturation is reached define the apparent ADP affinity constant $K_{\text{A}}$ with values of 0.21 ± 0.06 μM for acto-Myo1C$^{0}$ and 0.10 ± 0.03 μM for acto-Myo1C$^{35}$. The relationship between $K_a$, the dissociation equilibrium constant for ADP to acto-Myo1C$^{0}$, and the apparent equilibrium constant for ADP is defined by $K_{\text{A}} = K_a/(1 + 1/K_a)$. The resulting calculated $K_a$ values correspond to 0.44 ± 0.12 μM for acto-Myo1C$^{0}$ and 0.13 ± 0.04 μM for acto-Myo1C$^{35}$. Plots of the fraction of $A_{\text{slow}}$ as a function of [ADP] show a hyperbolic dependence, which at half-saturation directly defines $K_a$ giving values of 0.46 ± 0.08 μM for Myo1C$^{0\text{-}\Delta TH1}$ and 0.23 ± 0.03 μM for Myo1C$^{35\text{-}\Delta TH1}$ with a smaller margin of error than the calculated values (Fig. 5C). The second-order rate constants for ADP binding ($k_{\text{s}}$) were calculated from $k_{\text{A}}/K_a$, yielding values of $3.45 ± 0.75$ μM$^{-1}$ s$^{-1}$ and $3.78 ± 0.62$ μM$^{-1}$ s$^{-1}$ for acto-Myo1C$^{0\text{-}\Delta TH1}$ and acto-Myo1C$^{35\text{-}\Delta TH1}$, respectively (Table 1).

**Isoform-specific changes affecting $P_i$ release from acto-myosin-1C**

We measured the $P_i$ release kinetics for the myosin-1C isoforms in the presence of 5 μM actin (Fig. 5D). The observed rates of $P_i$ release were 0.021 ± 0.001 s$^{-1}$ from acto-Myo1C$^{0\text{-}\Delta TH1}$ and 0.010 ± 0.001 s$^{-1}$ from acto-Myo1C$^{35\text{-}\Delta TH1}$. Considering that ATP-turnover measurements in the presence of 5 μM actin, performed at 20 °C and under identical buffer conditions, showed only 15 and 30% of the maximum activation level for Myo1C$^{35\text{-}\Delta TH1}$ and Myo1C$^{0\text{-}\Delta TH1}$, respectively, we estimate that both constructs share a maximum rate of $P_i$ release of about 0.09 s$^{-1}$, which limits the rate of ATP turnover. These estimates are in good agreement with values of 0.10 ± 0.01 s$^{-1}$ for $k_{\text{A}}$, the rate constants for $P_i$ release in the presence of saturating concentrations of actin, obtained for both constructs by global fitting simulation (Table 1).

**Binding of myosin-1C isoforms to F-actin**

The rate of myosin-1C binding to actin filaments $k_{\text{A}}$ was measured by recording the exponential decrease of the pyrene fluorescence signal that follows rapid mixing of the proteins. Secondary plots of the observed rate constants against the actin concentration (0.25–3.0 μM) show linear dependencies (Fig. 6A). The second-order association rate constants $k_{\text{A}}$ are defined by the slope of the fit lines. In comparison with Myo1C$^{0\text{-}\Delta TH1}$, $k_{\text{A}}$ is 1.5-fold increased for Myo1C$^{35\text{-}\Delta TH1}$. The dissociation rate constant $k_{\text{D}}$ was determined by chas
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Figure 5. Interaction of Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and Myo1C35-ΔTH1 with the hydrolysis products ADP and Pi in the presence of pyrene-labeled actin. A, inhibition of the ATP-induced dissociation of pyrene-acto-Myo1C by ADP. The observed increases in fluorescence are best described by double exponentials yielding values for $k_{obs,slow}$, $k_{obs,fast}$, $A_{slow}$, and $A_{fast}$. B, the dependence of $k_{obs,slow}$ on ADP concentration was best fitted with a hyperbola. The apparent affinities for ADP correspond to 0.21 ± 0.06 μM and 0.10 ± 0.03 μM for acto-Myo1C0 and acto-Myo1C35. The minimum observed rates in the presence of saturating ADP concentrations define the rate constant for ADP dissociation ($k_{+A}$). C, plot of the fraction of $A_{slow}$ against [ADP]. The data were fitted to a hyperbola with $A_{slow}/A_{total} = [ADP]/(K + [ADP])$. D, Pi release from acto-Myo1C was followed in a double mixing experiment with 1.8 μM of the phosphate sensor MDCC-PBP and 5 μM F-actin after mixing. The averaged fluorescence transients are best described by single exponentials yielding an apparent rate constant for phosphate release. Fitted parameters are summarized in Table 1. All concentrations are given as final concentrations after rapid mixing. Error bars represent standard deviations from at least three determinations of each data point. The experimental curves in panel A and D correspond to the averaged signals from four independent measurements. Lines and symbols are shown in red and blue for Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and Myo1C35-ΔTH1, respectively.

Figure 6. Actin binding and release in the absence of nucleotides. Binding of the Myo1C-ΔTH1 constructs to pyrene-labeled F-actin quenches the pyrene fluorescence. The transients obtained upon mixing a Myo1C-ΔTH1 construct with pyrene-labeled actin in a stopped-flow spectrophotometer follow a mono-exponential. A, the observed rate constants show a linear dependence on the concentration of pyrene-labeled actin in the range from 0.25 to 3.0 μM. The second-order rate constants for binding to actin ($k_{+A}$) is derived from the slopes. B, fluorescence transients observed after chasing pyrene-labeled actin from the pyrene–actomyosin complex with excess F-actin. The observed processes could be fit to single exponentials where $k_{obs}$ corresponds directly to the rates of actin dissociation ($k_{-A}$). The fitted parameters are summarized in Table 1. All concentrations are given as final concentrations after rapid mixing. Error bars represent standard deviations from at least three determinations of each data point; the experimental curves in panel B correspond to the averaged signals from four independent measurements. Lines and symbols are shown in red and blue for Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and Myo1C35-ΔTH1, respectively.

pyrene-labeled actin with a large excess of unlabeled actin. Figure 6B shows the time course for displacement of pyrene-labeled actin from 0.35 μM pyrene-acto-Myo1C-ΔTH1 by the addition of 10 μM unlabeled actin. The time dependence of the ensuing rise in fluorescence amplitude is best described by a single-exponential function, where $k_{obs}$ corresponds directly to the dissociation rate constant $k_{-A}$. Our results show a 2-fold slower rate of Myo1C0-ΔTH1 dissociation from F-actin than that of Myo1C35-ΔTH1. The equilibrium dissociation constant $K_A$ for the interaction of the myosin-1C isoforms with F-actin
in the absence of ATP was calculated from the ratio of the rate constants $k_{A}/k_{\text{off}}$. $K_{A}$ corresponds to 13.7 ± 0.1 nM for Myo1C-$\Delta$TH1 and 16.9 ± 0.2 nM in the case of Myo1C-$\Delta$TH1 (Table 1).

**Isoform-specific changes in the motility of human myosin-1C isoforms**

To determine the influence of the NTE peptides on myosin-1C motor function, we performed *in vitro* motility assays. In particular, we analyzed isoform-specific differences in the motile activity of Myo1C-FL constructs on supported planar lipid bilayers containing 2% phosphatidyl-inositol-4,5-bisphosphate (PtdIns(4,5)P$_2$) and 98% dioleoylphosphocho-line (Fig. 7A). All three full-length constructs displayed smooth and continuous movement when flow-cell loading concentrations of 1 μM Myo1C-FL construct or greater were used. The maximum sliding velocities of Myo1C-$\Delta$TH1, Myo1C-$\Delta$TH1, and Myo1C-$\Delta$TH1 are 23.1 ± 1.9 nm s$^{-1}$, 9.4 ± 1.4 nm s$^{-1}$, and 5.0 ± 1.3 nm s$^{-1}$, respectively, under these conditions (Fig. 7B and Table 3).

The observed isoform-dependent changes in the sliding velocity of the Myo1C-FL constructs are consistent with the results obtained for the Myo1C-$\Delta$TH1 constructs with surface attachment via antibodies directed against the C-terminal histidine tag of these constructs. In the case of the TH1-truncated constructs, we observed approximately 4-fold differences for both the number of myosin motors required to support continuous smooth movement of actin filaments and the maximal sliding velocity of the constructs. We observed a linear dependence between the Myo1C-$\Delta$TH surface density and the observed velocity over the range of 200 to 900 motors μm$^{-2}$. At surface densities greater than 900 motors μm$^{-2}$, a plateau value of 52.1 ± 4.9 nm s$^{-1}$ is reached. In contrast, smooth, continuous movement of actin filaments on lawns of Myo1C-$\Delta$TH requires at least 1800 motors μm$^{-2}$. The plateau value of 14.4 ± 4.2 nm s$^{-1}$ is reached only at surface concentrations greater 3600 Myo1C-$\Delta$TH motors μm$^{-2}$ (Fig. 7, C–D). The linear dependence between Myo1C-$\Delta$TH surface density and velocity has a slope 16-fold smaller than that observed for the short isoform (Fig. 7D). With the exception of murine construct Myo1C-$\Delta$IQ-SAH which features a stable single α-helix lever-arm extension and supports ~10-fold faster velocities (25), the sliding velocities of the actin filament observed for human Myo1C-$\Delta$TH1 and Myo1C-$\Delta$FL are in good agreement with those previously reported for equivalent murine constructs (Table 4) (26–28).
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#### Table 3

**Kinetic and functional properties of human full-length myosin-1C**

| Parameter                          | Myo1C²⁴-FL | Myo1C²⁶-FL | Myo1C²⁸-FL |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Steady-state ATPase                | 0.10 ± 0.01| 0.12 ± 0.02| 0.10 ± 0.01|
| $k_{cat}$ (s⁻¹)                    | 0.09 ± 0.01| 0.37 ± 0.01| 0.66 ± 0.35|
| $K_{app,actin}$ (µM)               | 9.8 ± 0.1  | 12.7 ± 0.7 | 17.50 ± 7.85|
| $K_{cat}/K_{app,actin}$ (µM⁻¹ s⁻¹) | 0.008 ± 0.001| 0.024 ± 0.001| 0.026 ± 0.015|
| Active site isomerization          | #          | #          | #          |
| $k_{cat}$ (s⁻¹)                    | 4.1 ± 0.2  | 2.0        | 4.00 ± 0.03|
| $k_{cat}$ (s⁻¹)                    | 4.56 ± 0.13| 18.2       | 12.1 ± 1   |
| $K_0$                              | 0.90 ± 0.03| 0.11       | 0.33 ± 0.03|
| ATP binding                        | #          | #          | #          |
| $k_{cat}$ (s⁻¹)                    | 37.1 ± 1.6 | 41.2       | 26.0 ± 0.8 |
| $K_0$                              | 154 ± 31   | 507        | 97 ± 15    |
| $K_{cat}$ (µM⁻¹ s⁻¹)               | 0.16 ± 0.01| 0.081      | 0.26 ± 0.014|
| Actin binding and release          | #          | #          | #          |
| $k_{cat}$ (µM⁻¹ s⁻¹)               | 1.46 ± 0.07| n.d.       | 3.4 ± 0.2  |
| $K_0$                              | 0.019 ± 0.001| n.d.      | 0.0011    |
| $K_{cat}$ (µM)                     | 13.7 ± 0.1 | n.d.       | 0.29       |
| Phosphate release                  | #          | #          | #          |
| $k_{cat}$ (s⁻¹)                    | 0.10 ± 0.01| n.d.       | n.d.       |
| ADP release                        | #          | #          | #          |
| $k_{cat}$ (s⁻¹)                    | 1.59 ± 0.07| 1.9        | 3.90 ± 0.06|
| Motor properties                   | #          | #          | #          |
| Sliding velocity (nm s⁻¹)          | 52.1 ± 4.9 | 550 ± 170* | 83 ± 5.9   |
| $P_{max}$ (aW)                     | ~0.05      | n.d.       | ~0.008     |

### Table 4

**Comparison of kinetic and functional parameters of human and murine myosin-1C constructs lacking the extended PH domain**

| Reference | Organism | Construct name | Experimental temperature | Construct name | Experimental temperature | Steady-state ATPase | $K_{cat}$ (µM⁻¹ s⁻¹) | $K_{app,actin}$ (µM) | $k_{cat}/K_{app,actin}$ (µM⁻¹ s⁻¹) |
|-----------|----------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| This study | Human    | Myo1C²⁻ATH1    | °20 C/°37 C              | Mouse         | Myo1C²⁻1IQ-SAH           | 0.66 ± 0.35        | 0.026 ± 0.015      | 0.0046 ± 0.006       | n.d.                              |
|           |          |                |                          | Mouse         | Myo1C²⁻3IQ               | n.d.               | n.d.               | n.d.                | n.d.                              |
| Adamek et al., 2011 (25) | Mouse    | Myo1C²⁻3IQ      | °20 C/°37 C              | Mouse         | Myo1C²⁻3IQ                | n.d.               | n.d.               | n.d.                | n.d.                              |
| Greenberg et al., 2012 (21) | Mouse    | Myo1C²⁻3IQ      | °20 C/°37 C              | Mouse         | Myo1C²⁻3IQ/SAH            | n.d.               | n.d.               | n.d.                | n.d.                              |
| Greenberg et al., 2015 (28)  | Mouse    | Myo1C²⁻3IQ/SAH  | °20 C/°37 C              | Mouse         | Myo1C²⁻3IQ/QdN            | n.d.               | n.d.               | n.d.                | n.d.                              |

#### Human myosin-1C isoforms

We have previously reported that in the presence of saturating concentrations of peptide NTE²⁵, Myo1C²⁵-FL shows the same kinetic behavior in terms of ATP turnover as Myo1C²⁵-FL (22). Here, we report a similar ~4-fold decrease in the filament sliding velocity from 52.1 ± 4.9 nm s⁻¹ to 12.1 ± 4.3 nm s⁻¹ for acto-Myo1C²⁻ATH1 in the presence saturating concentrations of peptide NTE²⁵ and an ~2-fold decrease to 28.0 ± 5.3 nm s⁻¹ in the presence of peptide NTE¹⁶. To test a structural model that predicts a critical contact between residue R21 of the NTE and residue E469 in the relay loop (22), we performed additional assays with Myo1C²⁻-ATH1 in the presence of peptide NTE. The observed reduction in the sliding velocity to 30.4 ± 3.2 nm s⁻¹ is similar to the reduction brought about by peptide NTE¹⁶. This result supports our model (22) whereby a contact between NTE residue Arg-21 and relay loop residue Glu-469 contributes to defining the functional properties of myosin-1C²⁵ (Fig. 7C).

**Isoform-dependent modulation of force generation by myosin-1C ensembles**

To analyze the influence of the NTE peptides on force development, we determined the ability of the different isoforms to move actin filaments in the presence of an external load using frictional loading experiments (29). Binding of surface-attached α-actinin to actin filaments counteracts the driving force of myosin and leads to a reduction in the filament sliding velocity as the external load increases with the concentration of bound α-actinin (Fig. 8A). We observed that the load-dependent changes in the sliding velocities of myosin-1C isoforms are best described by a tension-sensing mechanism, as previously derived by Ostop and colleagues using single-molecule measurements (21, 28). The resulting model predicts two sequential transitions for the entire range of loads. A force-dependent and a force-independent transition with associated rate constants $k_{f}(F)$ and $k_{r}$. By fitting the data for the

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*Reference aThis study bAdamek et al., 2011 (25) c Greenberg et al., 2012 (21) c Greenberg et al., 2015 (28)*

*Steady-state buffer and assay buffer: 25 mM Hepes pH 7.5, 100 mM KCl, 0.5 mM MgCl₂, 37 °C.*

*Stopped-flow buffer: 10 mM Mops pH 7.0, 100 mM KCl, 1 mM MgCl₂, 0.2 mM EGTA, 1 mM DTT, 20 °C.*

*Assay buffer: 20 mM imidazole pH 7.5, 25 mM KCl, 4 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM EGTA, room temperature; °extended SAH lever arm.*

*Assay buffer: 20 mM Mops pH 7.0, 25 mM KCl, 1 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM EGTA, 1 mM DTT, 1 μM Ca²⁺, 20 °C; motility assay buffer: 25 mM imidazole pH 7.5, 25 mM KCl, 4 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM EGTA, 5 mM DTA, 20 °C (21, 28).*
Figure 8. Differences between Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and Myo1C35-ΔTH1 in force generation and power output. The mechanoochemical behavior of Myo1C0 and Myo1C35 was compared using a frictional loading assay (29). A, the filament sliding velocity of F-actin driven by Myo1C-ΔTH1 is reduced by the addition of α-actinin, generating a resistive force that increases with increasing α-actinin concentrations. The fit curves shown were obtained using the equation \( y = A_2 + (A_1 - A_2)/(1 + e^{(x-x_0)/\Delta x}) \). The values obtained for the midpoint of the transition and the steepness of the transition correspond to 25 ± 8 nm and 18 ± 4 nm for Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and 24 ± 11 nm and 15 ± 7 nm for Myo1C35-ΔTH1. B, dependence of the observed filament sliding velocity on resistive force. To relate α-actinin concentration to resistive force per filament, we used Equation 1. The fit curves shown were obtained using Equation 2 (21, 28). The values for the force–velocity dependence of the constructs shown in Figure 8B to Equation 1 and assuming working stroke displacements (\( \sigma \)) of 7.8 nm and 3.7 nm for Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and Myo1C35-ΔTH1, respectively, we obtained values of 7.0 ± 3.6 s⁻¹ for the detachment rate in the absence of external loads (\( k_0 \)) and 8.0 ± 0.3 s⁻¹ for the force-independent detachment rate (\( k_i \)) for Myo1C0-ΔTH1. The values obtained for Myo1C35-ΔTH1 are 68.2 ± 3.9 s⁻¹ and 3.7 ± 0.2 s⁻¹. The calculated \( k_i \) values for Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and Myo1C35-ΔTH1 are similar to the rates of unloaded ADP release (\( k_{ADP} \)) measured at 37 °C, with values 7.8 ± 0.1 s⁻¹ for Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and 3.8 ± 0.1 s⁻¹ for Myo1C35-ΔTH1. To obtain information about the maximum power output per myosin-1C motor (\( P_{max} \)) and the force at which maximum power output (\( F_{Pmax} \)) occurs from our ensemble measurements, we calculated the force–power relationships for Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and Myo1C35-ΔTH1 by extending Equation 1 with a force term and by estimating the number of interacting motors. The resulting bell-shaped curves define \( F_{Pmax} \) and \( P_{max} \) values for single motors of ∼2.0 pN and ∼0.05 aW for Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and ∼0.45 pN and ∼0.003 aW for Myo1C35-ΔTH1, respectively (Fig. 8C). The \( F_{Pmax} \) value obtained for Myo1C0-ΔTH1 is in good agreement with the value of 2.3 pN determined for a similar myosin-1C0 construct by single molecule optical trapping, while the \( F_{Pmax} \) determined for Myo1C35-ΔTH1 is similar to the value of 0.6 pN measured with myosin-1B in single-molecule experiments (21, 30).

Discussion

Human myosin-1C remains the only myosin for which high-resolution structural information is available that covers the entire molecule. The model of the full-length myosin-1C structure can be obtained by combining the crystal structures of the motor and neck regions (PDB accession code 4BYF) with that of the neck and tail regions of myosin-1C0 (PDB accession code 4R8G) (10, 31). The availability of detailed structural information for the whole protein greatly facilitates the generation of constructs that are suitable for studying specific aspects of myosin-1C function. In a previous study, we described how splicing of the human MYO1C gene and the resulting changes in the NTR of myosin-1C fine-tune the kinetics of the full-length isoforms of the protein (22). Here, we
extend the characterization of functional differences between the myosin-1C isoforms with studies investigating the motile properties of the full-length proteins and the kinetic and mechanochemical properties of engineered constructs that have their C-terminal TH1 domain replaced by an octa-histidine tag. Acceptable yields of the full-length versions of the myosin-1C isoforms were only obtained using homologous expression in suspension-adapted HEK293SF-3F6 cells. In contrast, the TH1-truncated versions can be produced and purified in larger quantities using baculovirus-driven protein production in insect cells. Like many other tail-truncated myosins (31–34), the TH1-truncated versions retain the actin- and nucleotide-binding properties of the full-length myosin and are therefore more readily available for detailed mechanochemical studies of enzymatic and motor functions. A comparison of results obtained with human and murine myosin-1C0 constructs (Table 4) reveals differences of similar magnitude as observed between the murine constructs with the truncated tail (21, 22, 25, 27, 28).

The mechanism of isoform-dependent mechanochemical tuning of myosin-1C is different from that of myosin-1B, which is alternatively spliced in its calmodulin-binding domain, yielding proteins with lever arms of different lengths. Additional differences are stemming from differences in the load dependence of product release and in particular the release of ADP (19, 21, 24, 35–37). Similarly, this seems to be a major difference between the myosin-1C isoforms and a chimeric construct with myosin-1B-like load-sensing behavior, obtained by replacing 11 N-terminal residues of myosin-1C0 with 15 N-terminal residues of myosin-1B (28). The replaced residues are an integral part of the upper 50-kDa domain of myosin-1C and not part of a small independent NTE (28).

The presence of the NTE16 and NTE35 peptides in trans or covalently attached to the myosin-1C motor domain leads to large changes in load-sensing behavior, including the 18-fold reduction in Pₘₐₓ observed for myosin-1C35. According to results obtained using optical trap measurements, the detachment of myosin-1C35 in the presence of external loads is best described by a two-step process involving a force-dependent transition kᵢ and a force-independent transition k₀ (Fig. 9) (21). The rates observed for kᵢ and k₀ were reported to be consistent with the transitions that limit ATP-induced dissociation at saturating [ATP] kᵢ₂ and the rate of ADP release kᵢ₅, respectively (28). The rate constants for the force-dependent detachment of acto-Myo1C have been shown to undergo only marginal changes in the presence of ADP (21). On the basis of this finding, the frictional loading experiments appear to be suitable for obtaining reasonable estimates of the rate constants kᵢ and k₀. This is supported by the fact that the load-dependent changes in the sliding velocities of all myosin-1C isoforms in our ensemble measurements are best described by the same model. A more detailed analysis of the force-sensing mechanism of myosin-1C35 requires single-molecule optical trap measurements.

Under low-load conditions, isoform-dependent changes have no or only minor effects on the rates of ATP hydrolysis (kᵢ₃ + kᵢ₅), Pᵩ release (kᵢ₄), and ATP turnover (k_cat) (Fig. 10 and Table 1). The major differences between the human myosin-1C isoforms are observed for steps that affect ADP release including the isomerization of the active site pocket ((22) and this study). ADP release contributes to the power stroke of class I myosins and plays a key role in defining the mechanical–chemical properties of these myosins (30, 38, 39). A 2-fold faster rate of ADP release explains in part the approximately 4-fold faster unloaded velocity of the myosin-1C35 constructs. Our results are compatible with an additional contribution stemming from a 2-fold larger working stroke of Myo1CᵩΔTH1 than Myo1CᵩΔTH1, as predicted by the previously established structural models of the NTE16 and NTE35 peptides (22). According to these models, the NTEs form compact structural domains similar to the SH3-like domains of class II, V, and VI myosins, which are positioned near residues in the cleft between the motor domain and the calmodulin-binding region. In the case of NTE35, the model...
predicts the formation of a salt bridge between Arg21 and Glu469 in the relay loop (22). The presence of small independent NTE subdomains can stERIC ally restrict the rotation of the lever arm and affect ADP release kinetics via allosteric pathways and thus account for the observed differences in motor activity (40).

**Experimental procedures**

**Reagents**

All chemicals and reagents were of the highest purity commercially available. N-(1-Pyrene)iodoacetamide was purchased from TFS (ThermoFisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA). Hepes, EGTA, potato apyrase (grade VII), and phalloidin were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich.

**Cloning, expression, and protein purification**

Tail-truncated constructs Myo1CΔTH1 and Myo1CΔTH1 were coexpressed with calmodulin in the baculovirus/Sf9 insect cell system. The DNA sequences encoding the truncated myosin-1C isoforms with C-terminal octa-histidine tag were cloned into a pFastBac Dual vector (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, California, USA) under the control of the polyhedrin promoter with human calmodulin (CALM1; IMAGE ID 2821489) under the control of the p10. The truncated constructs were purified using immobilized metal-ion affinity chromatography on a Ni²⁺-NTA matrix and gel filtration on a Superdex 200 10/300 column (GE Healthcare Europe GmbH, Freiburg, Germany). Human full-length constructs Myo1CΔTH1, Myo1CΔTH1, and Myo1CΔTH1 were produced and purified in HEK293SF-3F6 cells as previously described (22). Calmodulin was produced tag-free in *E. coli* Rosetta pLySs (DE3) (Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany) using vector pET-3a (Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany) and purified using heat precipitation and a Phenyl Sepharose High Performance column (GE Healthcare Europe GmbH, Freiburg, Germany) as previously described (41). Purification of α-actin from chicken pectoralis major muscle was performed as previously described (42). Hexa-histidine–tagged human α-actinin 2 was produced in *E. coli* Rosetta pLySs (DE3) using vector pET-23a and purified on a Ni²⁺-NTA matrix (43). Proteins were used directly or flash-frozen with sucrose in liquid nitrogen and stored at −80 °C. Protein concentrations were determined by recording absorbance spectra of the region from 240 to 400 nm with a UV-2600 spectrophotometer (Shimadzu Deutschland GmbH, Duisburg, Germany). The molar extinction coefficient at 280 nm was calculated from the amino acid composition.

**Kinetic measurements**

Steady-state ATPase assays were performed at 20 °C and 37 °C with the NADH-coupled assay in a buffer containing 25 mM imidazole (pH7.5), 25 mM KCl, 0.5 mM ATP, and 4 mM MgCl₂ as described previously (44). Transient kinetic experiments were performed at 20 °C in a buffer containing 25 mM Hepes, pH 7.5, 5 mM MgCl₂, 0.5 mM DTT, and 50 mM KCl using either a HiTech Scientific SF-61 DX or a HiTech SF-61 SX stopped-flow system (TgK Scientific Ltd, Bradford-on-Avon, UK). All concentrations are given as final concentrations after rapid mixing. We used pyrene-labeled actin to track the actin association and dissociation of myosin-1C isoforms and how this is affected by ATP and ADP. Pyrene-labeled actin fluorescence was excited at 365 nm, and emission was monitored after passage through a KV-389 cutoff filter (Schott AG, Mainz, Germany). Intrinsic tryptophan fluorescence was excited at 295 nm, and emission was monitored after passage through a KV-320 cutoff filter (Schott AG, Mainz, Germany).

ATP-induced dissociation of myosin-1C from actin was determined by adding 0.03 to 10 mM ATP to 0.13 μM acto-Myo1C and monitoring the increase of the fluorescence signal. The ensuing change of the fluorescence signal was interpreted as a two-step process, as previously described (19, 24, 45). The model proposes a slow phase corresponding to the isomerization between two nucleotide-free actin-bound states A-M (open active site) and A-M’ (closed active site), where only A-M is capable of binding ATP (Fig. 3). The fast phase represents the ATP binding to acto-Myo1C with subsequent dissociation of myosin-1C from actin.

ATP binding and hydrolysis was determined by adding 0.02 to 4 mM ATP to Myo1C-1IQ constructs and monitoring the resulting increase in the intrinsic tryptophan fluorescence signal (19).

Binding kinetics of myosin-1C to F-actin in the absence of nucleotides were determined by adding 0.25 to 3.00 μM pyrene-labeled actin to myosin-1C and monitoring the ensuing change in the amplitude of the fluorescence signal. Dissociation kinetics for the myosin-1C constructs from F-actin in the absence of ATP were determined by a chase experiment, where pyrene-labeled actin bound to myosin-1C was displaced by the addition of a large excess of unlabeled F-actin (46).

The apparent ADP affinity of the acto-Myo1C-ΔTH1 complexes can be assessed by ADP inhibition of the ATP-induced dissociation of the complexes (24, 25, 28). ADP binding and release was determined by adding 0.05 to 25 μM ADP to 0.13 μM acto-Myo1C and monitoring the increase of the fluorescence signal. In the presence of ADP, the kobs of the slow phase is reduced with a hyperbolic dependence. At saturating concentrations of ADP, kobs corresponds to the rate constant of ADP release (kΔ). The affinity of A-M for ADP (kΔ) was determined by fitting the fraction of the slow amplitude according to Aslow/Atotal = [ADP]/(KΔ + [ADP]) (28). The second-order rate constant of ADP binding (kΔ) was calculated using the relationship kΔ = kobs/KΔ.

Phosphate release kinetics from acto-My1C were monitored using the HiTech Scientific SF-61 DX stopped-flow system with double mixing as previously described using N-[2-(1-maleimidyl)ethyl]-7-(diethylaminono) coumarin-3-carboxamide–labelled phosphate-binding protein (MDCC-PBP) (47, 48). Myosin-1 C constructs and ATP were initially mixed and incubated for 6 s to allow ATP binding and hydrolysis to occur. This was followed by mixing with a 10-fold excess of actin (5 μM) to trigger phosphate release. Due to instrumental limitations related to the high viscosity of
saturating actin concentrations, we determined an observed rate constant for the release of Pi by measuring the progress of the reaction in the presence of 5 μM actin. To determine the rate constant for Pi release (k_{a4}), we performed kinetic simulations and global fitting.

Kinetic Studio software (TgK Scientific Ltd, Bradford on Avon, UK) was used for initial data inspection and analysis of transient kinetic data. Detailed data analysis was performed with Origin Pro 9.55 (OriginLab Corporation, Northampton, MA, USA) graphing and data analysis software. Each data point corresponds to the average of 3 to 5 single measurements. Goodness-of-fit criteria were evaluated using the coefficient of determination R^2 and \( \chi^2 \) tests as implemented in Origin Pro 9.55. KinTek Explorer was used for global fitting with numerical integration (49). To constrain the simulation, we used the experimental data of the parameters 1/K_1, k_{a2}, k_{a3} + k_{a4}, k_{a5}, and K_a from transient kinetic measurements and k_{cat}/K_{app.\text{actin}} from steady-state kinetic experiments. Errors of experimental data were included to the fit as statistical weighting parameters. To avoid local minima of the fit, we performed global fitting of the data several times with different initial rate constants.

The duty ratio corresponds to the fraction of time that myosin spends in strong binding states attached to F-actin during the ATPase cycle (Fig. 3). The rate of Pi release (k_{a4}) is gating the transition from weak to strong F-actin–bound states, whereas the rate of ADP release (k_{a5}) is gating the opposite transition. Accordingly, the duty ratio of myosin-1C is approximately equal to \( k_{a4}/(k_{a4} + k_{a5}) \) (36).

In vitro motility assays

Unloaded in vitro motility assays were performed as described previously (50, 51) with some modification. Octahistidine–tagged constructs Myo1C0-ATH1 and Myo1C35-ΔTH1 were immobilized on the glass surface using mouse monoclonal antibody QIAexpress Penta-His (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany). The surface density of the myosin-1C constructs were optimized by incubation with different antibody concentrations and by using a fixed antibody concentration by adding 10 μL of a 0.05 mg mL\(^{-1}\) antibody solution into the flow cell followed by incubation for 5 min at 18 °C, blocking with bovine serum albumin, and incubation for 5 min 18 °C with varying concentrations of myosin-1C constructs. Assays were performed using motor densities in the range from 180 to 5400 motors μm\(^{-2}\). In addition, we performed assays with 3600 motors μm\(^{-2}\) comparing the motile behavior of construct Myo1C0-ΔTH1 and Myo1C35-ΔTH1 in the presence and absence of peptides NTE\(^{16}\), NTE\(^{35}\), or NTE\(^{35}\)R\(^{21}\)G. To promote the formation of stable complexes, we added saturating concentrations of 50 μM NTE peptide to all assay solutions (22).

All solutions were made up with assay buffer (20 mMimidazole pH 7.5, 50 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl\(_2\), 2 mM EGTA). F-Actin was labelled with phalloidin-tetramethyl rhodamine B isothiocyanate (Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany) overnight at 4 °C. The in vitro motility assay was started by the addition of 4 mM Mg\(^{2+}\)-ATP in assay buffer containing oxygen scavengers and antibleach reagents (52). Actin sliding motility was measured at 37 °C using an Olympus IX70 fluorescence microscope equipped with a 60×/1.49 NA PlanApo objective and an Orca Flash 4.0 CMOS camera (Hamamatsu Photonics Deutschland GmbH, Herrsching, Germany). Tracking and analysis of filament movement were performed using the ImageJ plugin WrMTrck (Rasband, W.S., ImageJ, U. S. National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, USA, https://imagej.nih.gov/ij/, 1997–2018) and Origin V9.55 (OriginLab Corporation, Northampton, MA, USA).

The unloaded sliding velocity of full-length constructs Myo1C0-FL, Myo1C16-FL, and Myo1C35-FL was determined on fluid membranes composed of physiological concentrations of PtdIns(4,5)P\(_2\). Flow cells containing a supported lipid bilayer on a coverslip were prepared in the following manner. 1,2-Dioleoyl-sn-glycery-3-phosphocholine and PtdIns(4,5)P\(_2\) were mixed in a molar ratio of 50:1, dried under vacuum, and resuspended in lipid buffer (25 mM Heps pH 7.5, 100 mM KCl, 0.5 mM MgCl\(_2\)). Small liposomes were prepared with intense vortexing and tip sonification. The glass coverslips were soaked in Piranha solution (3 parts sulphuric acid and 1 part 30 % hydrogen peroxide) and washed with deionized water. Liposomes containing PtdIns(4,5)P\(_2\) were incubated for 30 min in the flow cell with 2 mM CaCl\(_2\). Excess lipid mix was washed out with lipid buffer. One chamber volume of assay buffer containing the desired concentration of Myo1C-FL was added to the flow cell, followed by incubation for 5 min to allow attachment of Myo1C-FL constructs to the supported lipid bilayer. This was followed by the addition of one chamber volume containing tetramethylrhodamine-phalloidin–labelled actin filaments.

Fractional loading assays were performed with the Myo1C-ΔTH1 constructs bound to the surface-immobilized His antibody at a surface density of 3600 motors μm\(^{-2}\), except that α-actinin was used to generate a viscoelastic load on actin filaments (29). The relationship between stall force and concentration of α-actinin is given by Equation 1:

\[
F = \frac{K_D}{k_D} \times v \times \zeta \times L \times r \times \frac{k_A \times \chi \times [\alpha]^{5/2}}{k_A \times \chi \times [\alpha]^{3/2} + k_D}
\]

where \( v \) is the filament sliding velocity, \( k_A \) and \( k_D \) are the second-order rate constants for acto-α-actinin attachment and detachment in the presence of ATP, respectively, \( L \) is the average length of a typical actin filament, \( \zeta \) and \( \chi \) are constants that define the surface concentration of α-actinin (29), \( \kappa \) is the elastic stiffness of the acto–Myo1C linkage with reported values from 0.2 to 0.5 pN nm\(^{-1}\) (45, 53), and \( r \) is the maximum distance for strong interactions between a surface-attached α-actinin molecule and an actin filament with a value of 61 nm (54, 55). The dependence of the sliding velocity on the stall forces was interpreted in terms of a sequential two-step model (Fig. 9), which was first proposed for Mus musculus myosin-1C\(^{0}\) (21, 28). The model defines the detachment of acto-myosin-1C as the result of a force-independent step and a force-dependent step, but the order of the steps cannot be distinguished by the model alone. The sum of the associated
force-independent and the force-dependent detachment rate constants is equal to $[k_a + k_b]$. The relationship between the force-dependent sliding velocity $v(F)$, both detachment rate constants and working stroke displacement $w$, is given by Equation 2:

$$ v(F) = \frac{w}{k_a + \frac{w}{k_b}} $$

where $d$ is the distance parameter, $k_0$ is the detachment rate in the absence of external loads, $k_B$ is Boltzmann’s constant, and $T$ is the temperature. Power output $p$ was calculated from the relationship between force produced by myosin motors and the velocity observed at this force (21).

Data availability

All data are contained within the manuscript.

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Author contributions—All authors discussed the results and contributed to the final manuscript; S. G. purified proteins, performed experiments, analyzed data, designed the figures, wrote the draft of the manuscript, and contributed to later versions; L. Z. produced and purified full-length myosin-1C; D. J. M. and M. H. T. conceived and coordinated the study; D. J. M. wrote the final version of the manuscript, analyzed data, and was responsible for funding acquisition and project administration.

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Conflict of interest—The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest with the contents of this article.

Abbreviations—The abbreviations used are: AM, actomyosin; acto-MyoIC, complex of myosin-1C with filamentous actin; A.U., arbitrary units; $K_{\text{app,active}}$ apparent dissociation equilibrium constant for actin binding in the presence of ATP; $k_{\text{det,ap}}$ maximum value of the steady-state ATPase activity; MDCC-PBP, N-[2-[(1-maleimidyl)ethyl]-7-(diethylamino)-coumarin-3-carboxamidem-labelled phosphate-binding protein; Myo1C-FL, full-length myosin-1C construct; Myo1C-ATH1, myosin-1C construct lacking the TH1 domain; NTE, N-terminal extension; NTE16, peptide corresponding to the N-terminal extension of myosin-1 C16; NTE35, peptide corresponding to the N-terminal extension of myosin-1 C35; NTR, N-terminal region; PDB, Protein Data Bank.

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