

# SUPPORTING MATERIAL

## Model potential function

Applying the procedure in Theory section for the identification of non-zero terms in the bivariate polynomial form (Eq. 17 of the main text), the model potential for the histidine titration and tautomer interconversion is determined as

$$U^{\text{mod}}(\lambda_i, x_i) = \lambda_i^2(a_0x_i^2 + a_1x_i + a_2) + \lambda_i(a_3x_i + a_4) \quad (1)$$

and the coefficients in the polynomial function can be derived as

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= A_{10} \\ a_1 &= -2A_{10}B_{10} + 2(A_1B_1 - A_0B_0) \\ a_2 &= A_0 \\ a_3 &= -2A_1B_1 + 2A_0B_0 \\ a_4 &= -2A_0B_0 \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where  $A_0, B_0, A_1, B_1, A_{10}, B_{10}$  are the coefficients in the quadratic functions for the one-dimensional model potential functions as given in Eq. 15 of the main text. Notice that  $U^{\text{mod}}(\lambda_i, x_i)$  satisfies all the boundary conditions given in Eq. 15 and Eq. 16 of the main text.

Analogously, for the titration and tautomer interconversion pathway of carboxylic acid, the model potential function can be derived as,

$$U^{\text{mod}}(\lambda_i, x_i) = (a_0\lambda_i^2 + a_1\lambda_i + a_2)(x_i + a_3)^2 + a_4\lambda_i^2 + a_5\lambda_i \quad (3)$$

where the coefficients are given as

$$\begin{aligned} a_2 &= A_{10} \\ a_3 &= -B_{10} \\ a_0 &= (A_1 - A_0)/(1 + 2a_3) \\ a_1 &= 2(A_0 - B_0)/(1 + 2a_3) \\ a_4 &= A_0 - a_0a_3^2 \\ a_5 &= -2A_0B_0 - a_1a_3^2 \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

A numerical problem arises in the determination of  $a_0$  via the above the formula since the values of the numerator and denominator are close to zero. This occurs because the one-dimensional model potential functions for the titration at OD1 and OD2 sites are almost identical. Consequently,  $a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3$  can be determined by following step 3 and 4 of the procedure mentioned in the Theory section.  $a_4, a_5$  can be determined in a similar fashion using step 1 and 2 of the same procedure.