

Table S3. Statistical parameters characterizing bimodal computer-simulated pH distributions.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
weighted mean, $\overline{\text{pH}}_e$	6.85	6.92	7.03	7.10	7.15	7.20
weighted median, $\widetilde{\text{pH}}_e$	6.85	7.01	7.11	7.16	7.18	7.20
mode, $\text{pH}_{e1}$	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20
mode, $\text{pH}_{e2}$	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.55	n.d.
intensity ratio $\text{pH}_{e2}/\text{pH}_{e1}$	1.00	0.67	0.33	0.17	0.08	0.0001
area ratio $\text{pH}_{e2}/\text{pH}_{e1}$						
- integrated	1.00	0.64	0.31	0.15	0.06	n.d.
- rel. error [%]	0	-4.5	-6.1	-11.8	-25	n.d.
- integration limit [pH]	6.85	6.80	6.75	6.70	6.60	n.d.
skewness, G1	0.00	-0.26	-0.67	-0.95	-1.01	0.00
kurtosis, G2	-1.14	-1.02	-0.33	0.78	1.75	0.01
entropy, H	4.90	4.87	4.73	4.54	4.37	4.05

Data are based on the simulated Gaussian pH distributions presented in Fig. S5. Curves were numerically generated based on intervals of 0.05 pH units, such that pH modes coincided with nominal pH values of 7.20 ( $\text{pH}_{e1}$ ) and 6.50 ( $\text{pH}_{e2}$ ). The modes,  $\text{pH}_{e1}$  and  $\text{pH}_{e2}$ , were added with  $\text{pH}_{e2}/\text{pH}_{e1}$  proportions (intensity ratios) decreasing from A to F (see also Figure S4 panels A to F). For equal  $\text{pH}_{e1}$  and  $\text{pH}_{e2}$  contributions (A), the  $\text{pH}_e$  distribution was broad (low kurtosis and high entropy) and perfectly symmetric (skewness = 0);  $\overline{\text{pH}}_e$  and  $\widetilde{\text{pH}}_e$  had identical values, and the ratio of the  $\text{pH}_{e2}$  area vs. the  $\text{pH}_{e1}$  area obtained by integration had the theoretical value of 1.00. With decreasing  $\text{pH}_{e2}$  contribution (B to F), the distribution curve became more pointed (increased kurtosis), less even (decreased entropy), and asymmetric (negative skewness); moreover,  $\overline{\text{pH}}_e$  and  $\widetilde{\text{pH}}_e$  diverged ( $\overline{\text{pH}}_e < \widetilde{\text{pH}}_e$ ), and the area ratios  $\text{pH}_{e2}/\text{pH}_{e1}$  became smaller than the corresponding theoretical values (Figure S4 panel G). The apparent position of the  $\text{pH}_{e2}$  mode tended to be shifted to slightly increased values for low intensity ratios (column E). However, for extremely small  $\text{pH}_{e2}$  contributions (column F; Fig. S4 F), the pH profile became symmetric about  $\text{pH}_{e1}$  (vanishing G1),  $\overline{\text{pH}}_e = \widetilde{\text{pH}}_e = \text{pH}_{e1}$ , and G2 vanished as the overall pH distribution approached a single Gaussian distribution. Consequently, also the evenness of the pH curve approached that of a single Gaussian ( $H = 4.05$ ) as the  $\text{pH}_{e2}$  contribution became virtually undetectable.