

## **Supplemental Information for**

**<sup>19</sup>F NMR chemical shift encoded peptide screening targeting the  
potassium channel Kv1.3**

# Supplementary information

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## 1. Supplementary method

### 1.1 Solid-phase Synthesis of HsTX1 analogies

HsTX1 analogies were synthesized by a fluoren-9-ylmethoxycarbonyl (Fmoc) -based solid-phase peptide synthesis method on an automated peptide synthesizer (CS 136XT). Peptide chains were assembled stepwise on the Rink-amide resin by repeated Fmoc deprotection and amino-coupling operations. Removal of the Fmoc group was performed twice (5, 10 min) with 20% piperidine in DMF (v/v). Coupling of Fmoc amine acids were performed twice (30, 15 min) using 4 eq Fmoc-AA-OH, 4 eq HCTU and 8 eq DIEA in DMF. The specific coupling of fluorinated amino acids was carried out manually using 2 eq Fmoc-AA-OH, 2 eq HATU and 4 eq DIEA, and the reaction was performed once (1.5 h) using a constant temperature shaker at 37°C. After assembly of peptide chains, the resin was treated with cleavage cocktail K (TFA/phenol/H<sub>2</sub>O/thioanisole/1,2-ethanedithiol, 82.5:5:5:5:2.5) for 2 h. The cleavage solution was collected by filtration, condensed by blowing with N<sub>2</sub> and precipitated with ice cold diethyl ether to give the crude peptide. The crude peptide was purified by semi-preparative RP-HPLC. The collected fractions were combined and freeze-dried. The purity of the purified peptide was confirmed by analytical RP-HPLC and ESI-MS.

The purified linear HsTX1 analogies was dissolved in redox buffer containing 1 mM GSH /0.1 mM GSSG and the pH was adjusted to 8.5 with 1 M NaOH. The folding reaction contained 0.1 mg/ml peptide and stirred under 50 r/min at 37°C. The folding process was monitored by the analytical RP-HPLC and reached equilibrium in 4 h. The molecular weight of the main peak is 8 Da less than the corresponding linear polypeptide, which indicates formation of four pairs of disulfide bridges. Then, the pH of folding buffer was adjusted to 2 with TFA and purified by semi-preparative RP-HPLC (yield = 15-25%). The purity of the folded HsTX1 analogies were confirmed by

analytical RP-HPLC and ESI-MS.

All Fmoc-amino acids and reagents were purchased commercially and used without further purification. Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pbf)-OH, Fmoc-Asn(Trt)-OH, Fmoc-Asp(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Cys(Trt)-OH, Fmoc-Glu(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Gly-OH, Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Met-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Thr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Tyr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Trp(5-F)-OH, Fmoc-Trp(7-F)-OH, Fmoc-Phe(4-F)-OH, 5-Chloro-1-[bis(dimethylamino)methylene]-1H-benzotriazolium 3-oxide hexafluorophosphate (HCTU), 1-[bis(dimethylamino)methylene]-1H-1,2,3-triazolo-[4,5-b] pyridinium 3-oxide hexafluorophosphate (HATU), Rink-amide resin (loading = 0.37 mmol/g) was purchased from Tianjin Nankai Hecheng Technology Co., Ltd. N, N-diisopropylethylamine (DIEA) were purchased from GL Biochem. N, N-dimethylformamide (DMF), dichloromethane (DCM), and high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)-grade acetonitrile were purchased from Chron Chemicals Co., Ltd. HPLC-grade trifluoroacetic acid (TFA, 99.5%) was purchased from J&K Scientific Ltd. Piperidine, phenol and diethyl ether were purchased from the Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd. Trifluoroacetic acid, 1,2-ethanedithiol, thioanisole and phenylsilane were purchased from Energy Chemical.

Analytical reversed-phase high-pressure liquid chromatography (RP-HPLC) was performed using Shimadzu (Prominence LC-20AT) instrument equipped with a dual wavelength (214 nm, 254 nm) UV-VIS detector SPD-20A and an analytical column (Reprosil-Pur Basic-C18, 4.6 ×250 mm, 5 μm particle size, flow rate 1.0 ml/min). Semi-preparative RP-HPLC was performed using Shimadzu Prominence HPLC LC-20AT equipped with a dual wavelength (214 nm, 254 nm) UV-VIS detector SPD-20A and a Semi-preparative column (Reprosil-Pur Basic-C18, 10 ×250 mm, 5 μm particle size, flow rate 3.5 ml/min). Buffer A was 0.1% TFA in acetonitrile, and buffer B was

0.1% TFA in water. Both Buffers were sonicated for 15 min before use. Synthetic peptides were characterized by electrospray ionization mass spectrometry (ESI-MS, Shimadzu LCMS-2020).

## **1.2 Cloning, Protein Expression, and Purification of Kv1.3.**

The gene for human Kv1.3(UniProtKB accession no. P22001), lacking the first 52 residues, and human Kv $\beta$ 2.1(UniProtKB accession no. Q13303) were cloned for coexpression into a pFastBac dual vector (Invitrogen) with a FLAG tag (DYKDDDDK) at the amino terminus of Kv1.3. The expression construct expressing Kv1.3–Kv $\beta$ 2.1 was transformed into DH10Bac cells to produce bacmid. For large-scale expression, baculovirus after two rounds of amplification was used to infect Sf9 cells at  $2 \times 10^6$  cells/ml cultured in SIM SF medium (Sino Biological Inc.) at 27 °C. Infected Sf9 cells were cultured for 60 h before harvesting. The cell pellet from 1 L of culture was resuspended in lysis buffer (20 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 150 mM KCl, and 10% glycerol). The suspension was supplemented with 1.5% (wt/vol) n-dodecyl- $\beta$ -D-maltopyranoside (DDM;Anatrace), 0.3% (wt/vol) cholesteryl hemisuccinate (Sigma), and protease inhibitor cocktail. After extraction at 4°C for 2 h, the insoluble fraction was removed by ultracentrifugation at 180,000  $\times$  g for 45 min at 4°C, and the supernatant was incubated with anti-FLAG G1 affinity gel (GenScript) for 1 h at 4°C. The resin was then collected and washed with wash (W) buffer (20 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 150 mM KCl, and 0.1% GDN). The proteins were eluted with W buffer composed of 200  $\mu$ g/mL FLAG peptide. After elution, the proteins were concentrated and further purified on a Superose 6 increase column (Cytiva) equilibrated with 20 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 150 mM KCl, and 0.005%GDN. Peak fractions of the protein complex were collected, analyzed by SDS-PAGE, flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen, and stored at -80°C.

### **1.3 Electrophysiology**

DNA encoding hKV1.3 was cloned into a pcDNA3.1/Zeo(+) vector. Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells were cultured in DMEM/F12 medium (Gibco) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS, GIBCO), 1% Penicillin-Streptomycin-Glutamine (GIBCO) at 37°C in a 5% CO<sub>2</sub> incubator. Plasmids carrying K V 1.3 channels and plasmid carrying EGFP were transiently transfected into CHO cells using Lipofectamine 3000(Invitrogen). After incubation for 5 h, the cells were transferred to poly-L-lysine-coated glass coverslips for culture for another 24-48 h in fresh medium. They were then used for electrophysiological recording.

For whole-cell patch clamp recordings, The electrodes were pulled from thick-walled borosilicate glass capillaries with filaments (World Precision Instruments, Inc.) on a four-stage puller (P-1000, Sutter Instruments) and had resistances of 3-5 MΩ. Data were obtained using EPC10 patch clamp amplifier (HEKA Electronics) in whole-cell configuration under voltage-clamp mode (current measurement) at room temperature Kv1.3 currents were elicited by repeated 200-ms pulses from holding potential (-80 mV) to 40 mV, applied at intervals of 30s to avoid cumulative inactivation. After three stable records of currents, HsTX1 was applied to the patched cell through a Y-tube perfusion system and the degree of block determined. Recording solution compositions are as follows: the external solution: 150 mM NaCl, 4 mM KCl, 2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, and 10 mM HEPES (pH 7.4, ~308 mOsm), and the internal solution: 140 mM KCl, 10 mM NaCl, 5 mM EGTA, and 10 mM HEPES (pH 7.4, ~297 mOsm). All chemicals were obtained from Sigma.

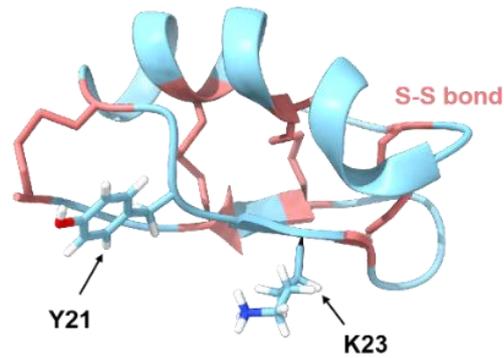
### **1.4 Conformational analysis by CD**

The CD spectra of peptides was measured by JASCO J-1700 CD spectroscopy ((JASCO, Japan) at

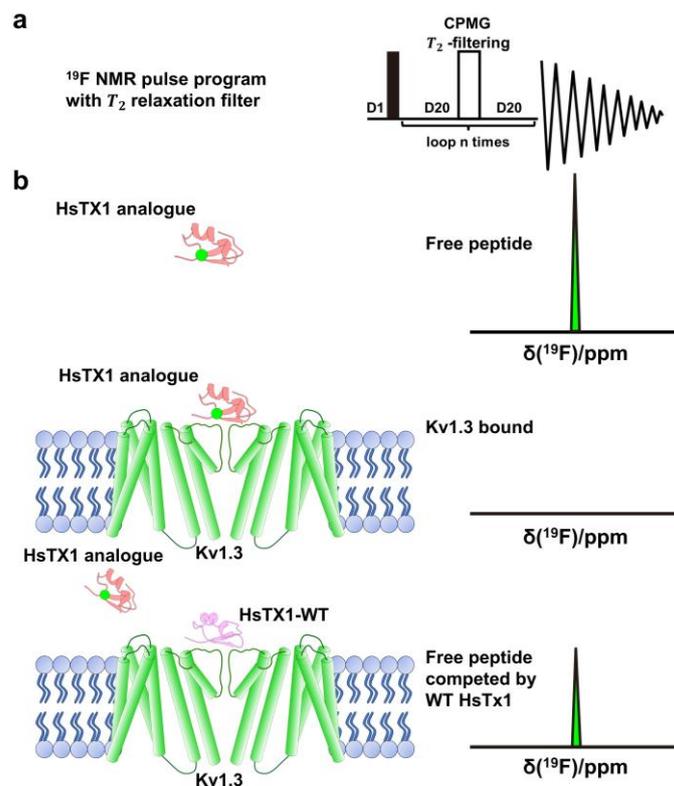
room temperature. The concentration of all peptides was 100  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ . Detection wavelength range was 190–240 nm; bandwidth was 1 nm; and scanning speed was 200 nm/min. Results are expressed as molar ellipticity ( $[\theta]_{\text{M}}$ ) per residue.

### **1.5 $^{19}\text{F}$ NMR spectroscopy**

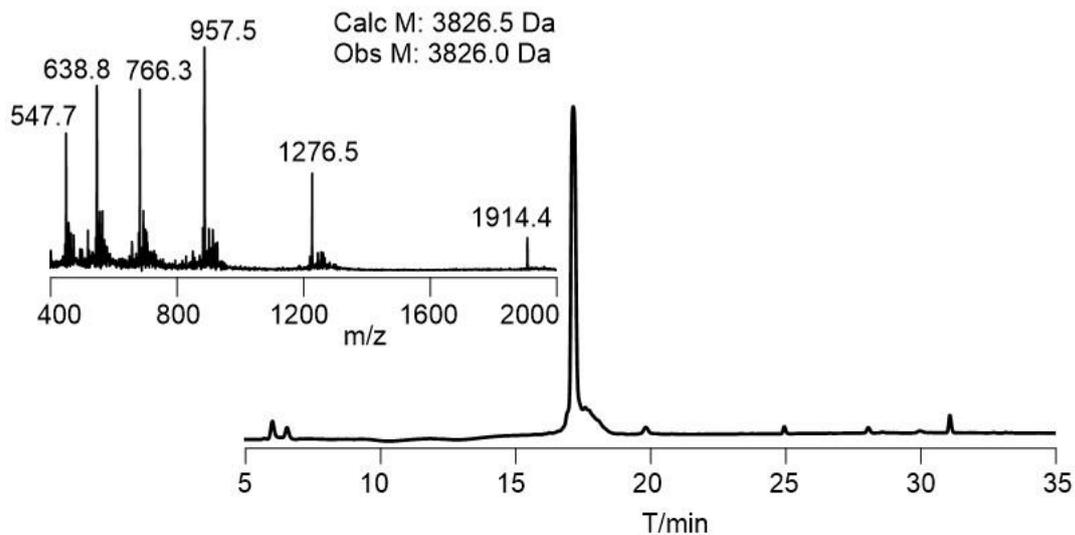
$^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR screening experiments were performed using an Avance III (600 MHz) Bruker spectrometer equipped with a TCI  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}/^{15}\text{N}$  cryogenic probe, with the  $^1\text{H}$  channel tuned to the  $^{19}\text{F}$  Larmor frequency. The experiments were performed at 298 K in 500  $\mu\text{L}$  samples in 5 mm NMR tubes. The samples were dissolved in buffer consisting of 20 mM HEPES and 150 mM KCl with 10%  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  and 0.005% (w/vol) GDN (Anatrace). The experiment was recorded at a temperature of 298 K, with an acquisition time of 180 ms and a recycle delay of 1 s.  $^{19}\text{F}$  chemical shifts were referenced to an internal compound of trifluoro-acetic acid (TFA, 75.39 ppm).  $^{19}\text{F}$  relaxation-filtered one-dimensional NMR was performed using a  $T_2$  filter-based Carr–Purcell–Meiboom–Gill (CPMG) pulse sequence with transverse relaxation durations 10 ms, which consists of a hard  $90^\circ$  excitation pulse followed by a series of  $180^\circ$  refocusing pulses that create an echo. The 1D  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR spectra were processed with MestReNova (Mestrelab Research S.L.) and Topspin 4.3.0 software (Bruker).



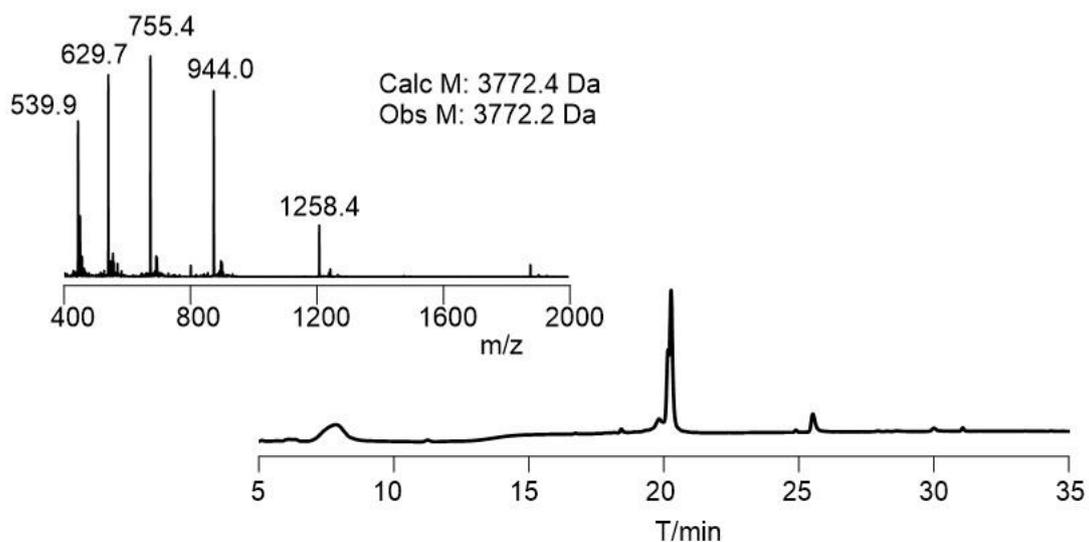
**Figure S1.** Solution NMR structure of scorpion toxin HSTX1 (PDB 1QUZ). The disulfide bridges were shown in red. The residue Y21 and K23 were shown as sticks.



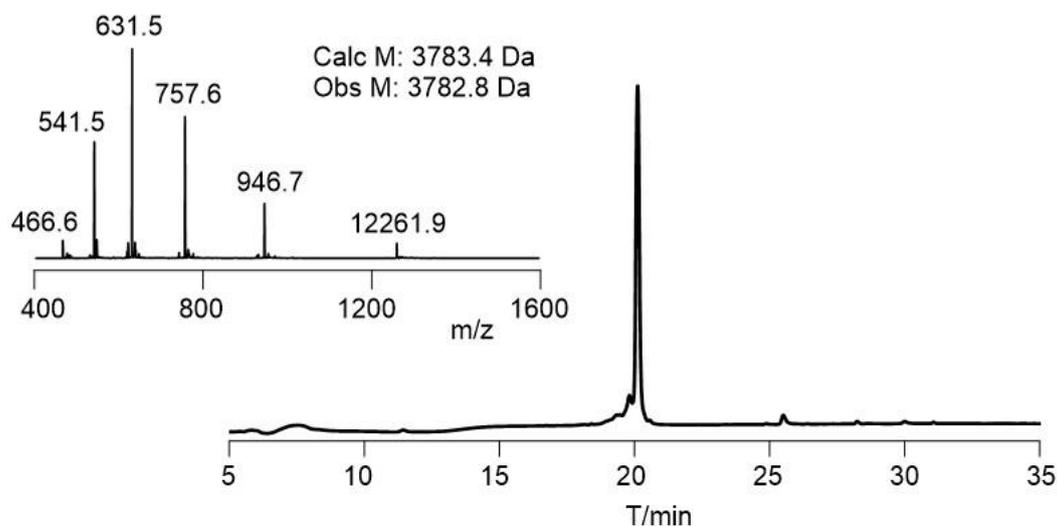
**Figure S2.** (a)  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR pulse schemes for the  $T_2$  relaxation-filtered NMR experiments. The black bar indicates the  $90^\circ$  pulse, and the white bar represents the  $180^\circ$  pulse. (b) A sharp  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR signal was observed for the free peptide in the buffer. With the addition of Kv1.3, the  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR signal of the peptide was attenuated and even disappeared due to binding to the protein. The introduction of a competing ligand resulted in partial recovery of the  $^{19}\text{F}$  signal of the peptide, which was attributed to dissociation of the peptide from Kv1.3.



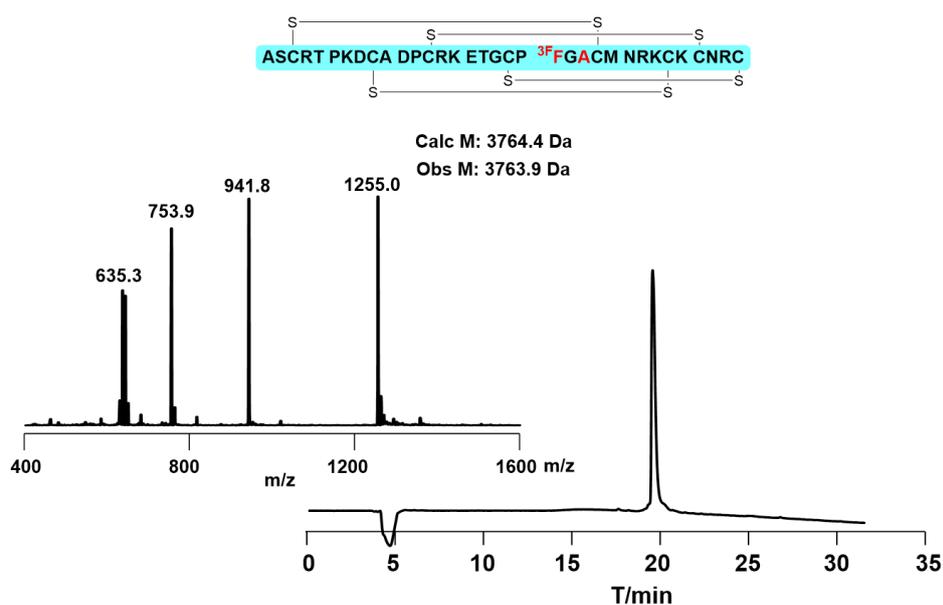
**Figure S3.** Analytical HPLC chromatogram of the linear full-length precursor of HsTX1 WT. The main peak in the HPLC profile corresponds to linear full-length precursor of HsTX1 WT. The gradient used for analytical HPLC is 1-61% buffer B in buffer A in 30 min. The ESI-MS spectrum gave an observed mass of 3826.0 Da (calcd 3826.5 Da, average isotopes).



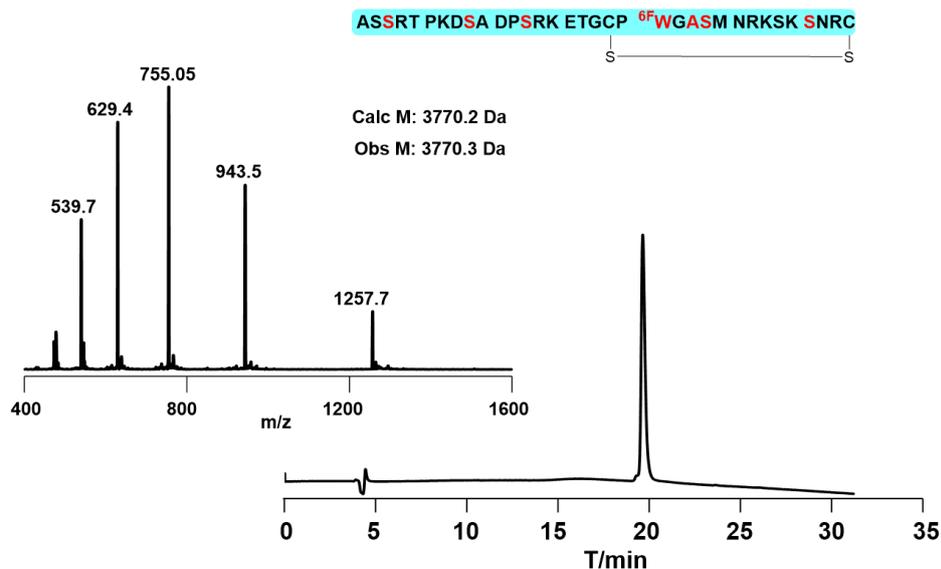
**Figure S4.** Analytical HPLC chromatogram of the linear full-length precursor of peptide 1. The main peak in the HPLC profile corresponds to linear full-length precursor of peptide 1. The gradient used for analytical HPLC is 1-61% buffer B in buffer A in 30 min. The ESI-MS spectrum gave an observed mass of 3772.4 Da (calcd 3772.2 Da, average isotopes).



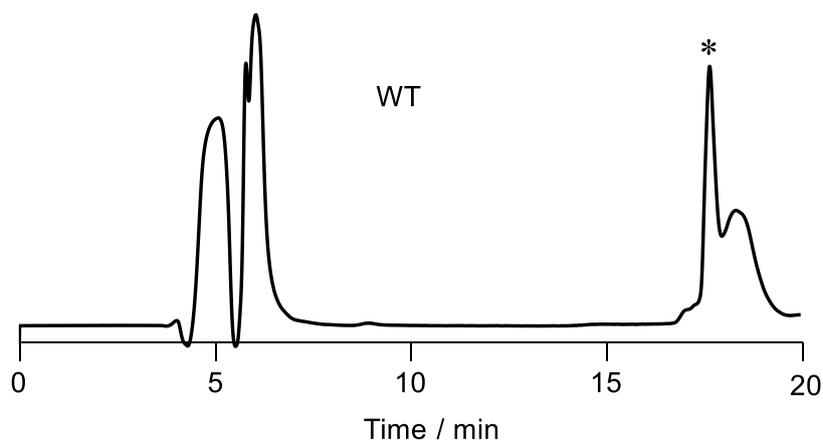
**Figure S5.** Analytical HPLC chromatogram of the linear full-length precursor of peptide **2**. The main peak in the HPLC profile corresponds to linear full-length precursor of peptide **2**. The gradient used for analytical HPLC is 1–61% buffer B in buffer A in 30 min. The ESI-MS spectrum gave an observed mass of 3782.8 Da (calcd 3783.4 Da, average isotopes).



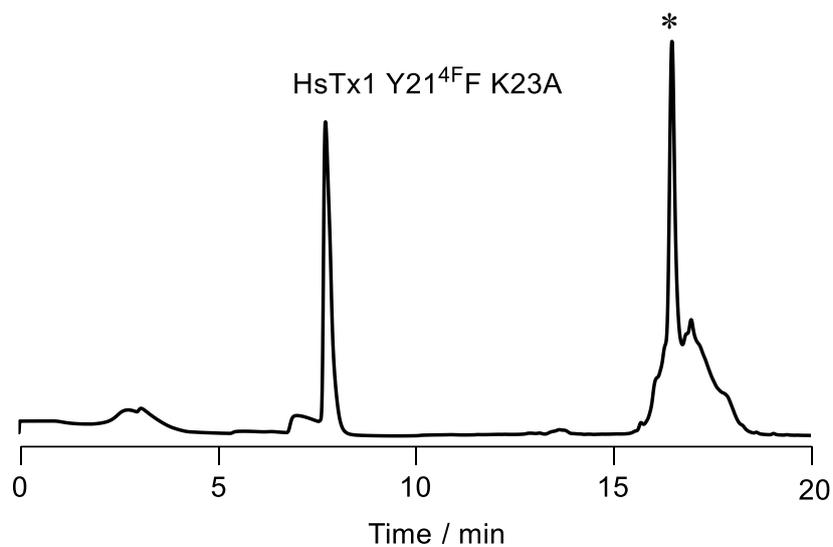
**Figure S6.** Analytical HPLC chromatogram of peptide **4**. The main peak in the HPLC profile corresponds to correctly folded peptide **4**. The gradient used for analytical HPLC is 1–61% buffer B in buffer A in 30 min. The ESI-MS spectrum gave an observed mass of 3764.4 Da (calcd 3763.9 Da, average isotopes).



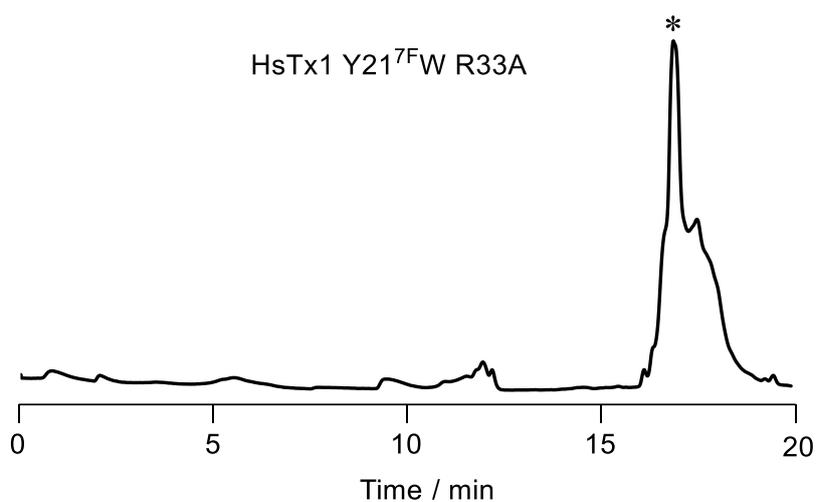
**Figure S7.** Analytical HPLC chromatogram of peptide **5**. The main peak in the HPLC profile corresponds to correctly folded peptide **5**. The gradient used for analytical HPLC is 1-61% buffer B in buffer A in 30 min. The ESI-MS spectrum gave an observed mass of 3770.2 Da (calcd 3770.3 Da, average isotopes).



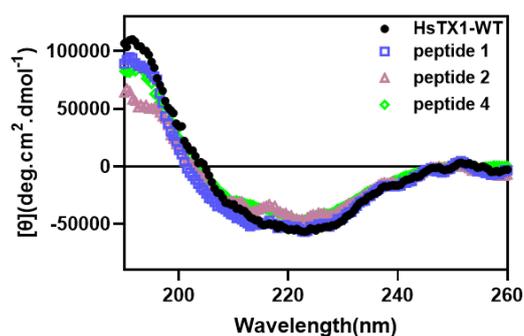
**Figure S8.** HPLC analysis traces for folding of HsTX1 WT. The main peak in the HPLC profile corresponds to correctly folded HsTX1 WT. The gradient used for analytical HPLC is 1-61% buffer B in buffer A in 30 min. Peak corresponds to the expected product was marked with a star.



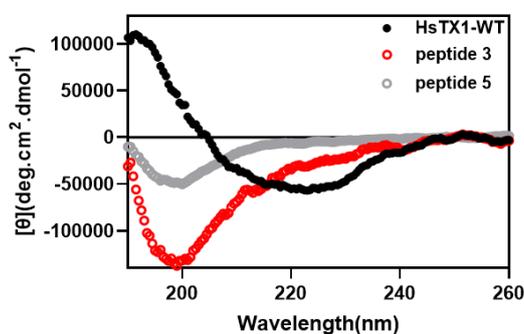
**Figure S9.** HPLC analysis traces for folding of peptide **1**. The main peak in the HPLC profile corresponds to correctly folded peptide **1**. The gradient used for analytical HPLC is 1-61% buffer B in buffer A in 30 min. Peak corresponds to the expected product was marked with a star.



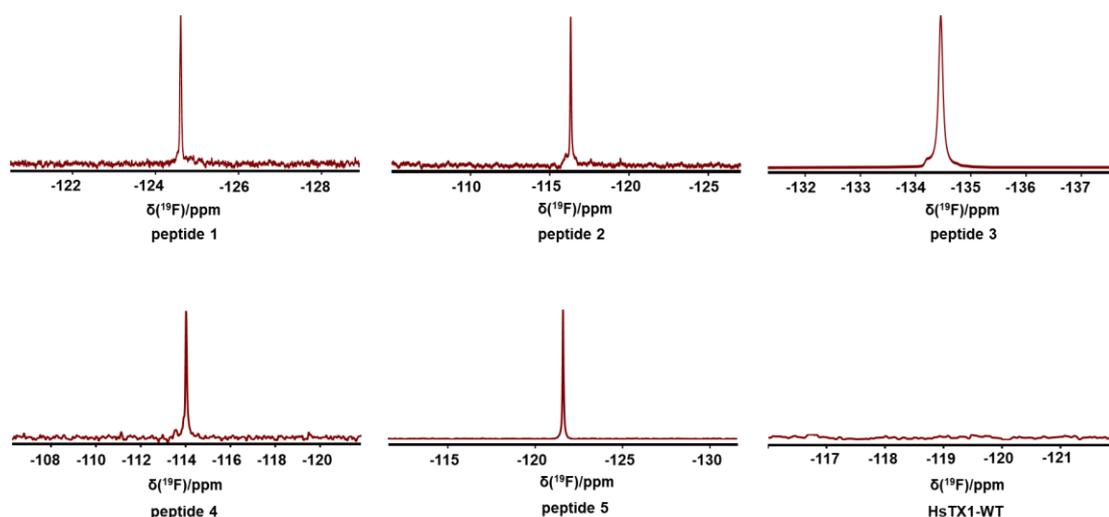
**Figure S10.** HPLC analysis traces for folding of peptide **2**. The main peak in the HPLC profile corresponds to correctly folded peptide **2**. The gradient used for analytical HPLC is 1-61% buffer B in buffer A in 30 min. The main peak of HPLC profile corresponds to the expected product was marked with a star.



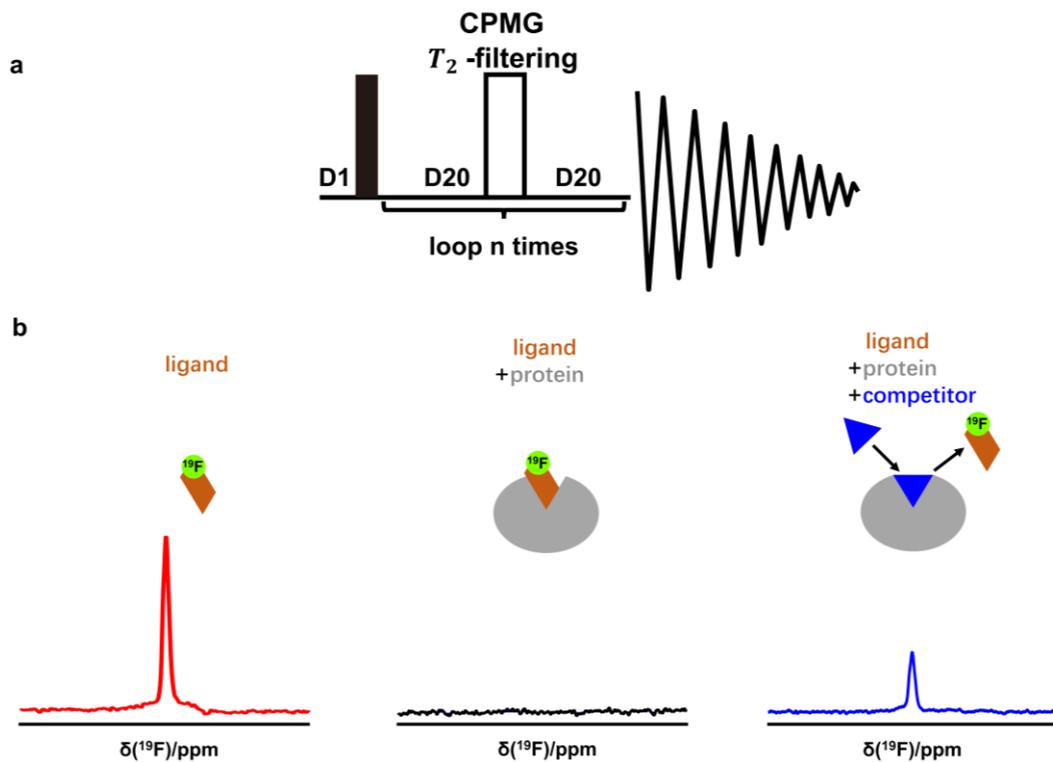
**Figure S11.** CD spectrum of peptide 1, 2, 4 and HsTX1-WT. The concentration of all peptides was 100  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  in 20 mM sodium phosphate buffer, pH 7.1. Spectra were recorded with a 1-mm-pathlength cell.



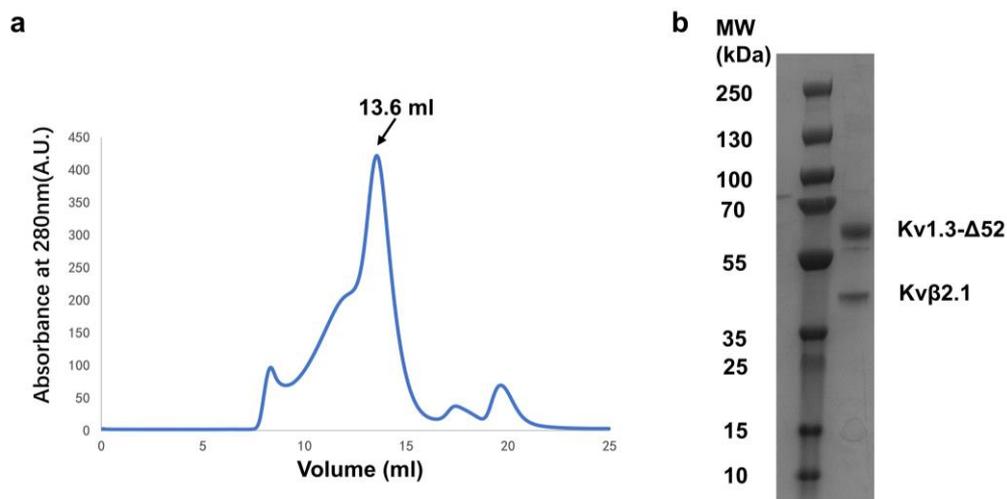
**Figure S12.** CD spectrum of peptide 3, 5 and HsTX1-WT. The concentration of all peptides was 100  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  in 20 mM sodium phosphate buffer, pH 7.1. Spectra were recorded with a 1-mm-pathlength cell. Unlike four disulfide bridges HsTX1-WT, peptides 5 has only one pair of disulfide bridges (C19/34). The CD spectra of peptide 5 was similar with linear peptide 3, but different from four disulfide bridge HsTX1-WT, suggesting that disulfide bonds play a critical stabilizing role in HsTX1 structure.



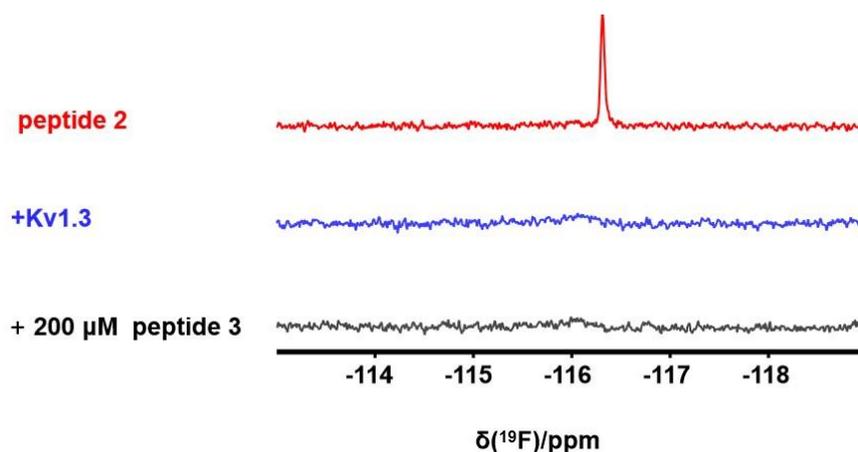
**Figure S13.**  $^{19}\text{F}$  chemical shifts of the individual peptides. In the detergent solution, all peptides exhibit sharp signals in the  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR spectrum.



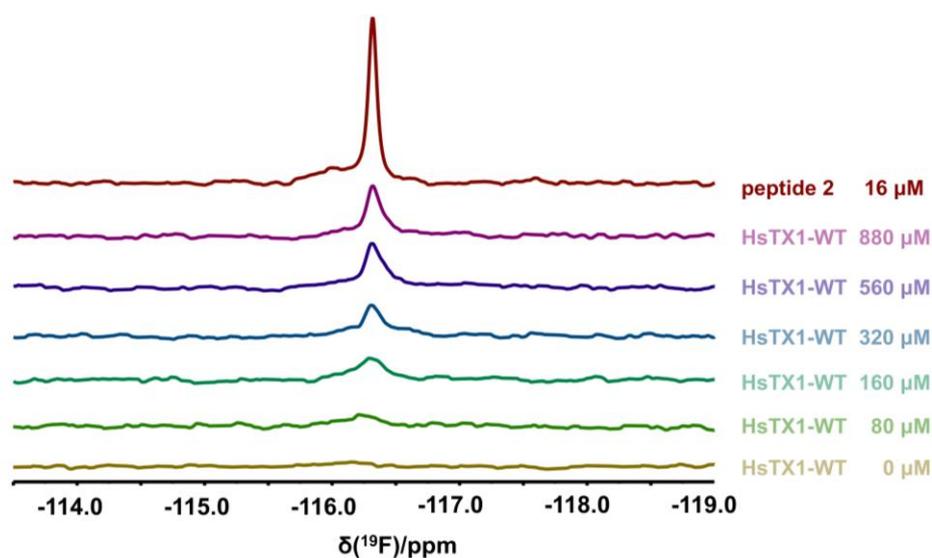
**Figure S14.** (a)  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR pulse Scheme for  $^{19}\text{F}$   $T_2$ -filter experiments. The black and white bars indicate 90-degree and 180-degree pulses, respectively. (b) 1D  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectrum of peptide in buffer (left), the target protein bound (middle), the competition compound addition (right). Protein ligand binding was observed by the attenuated resonance intensity of  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR from  $^{19}\text{F}$  incorporated ligand.



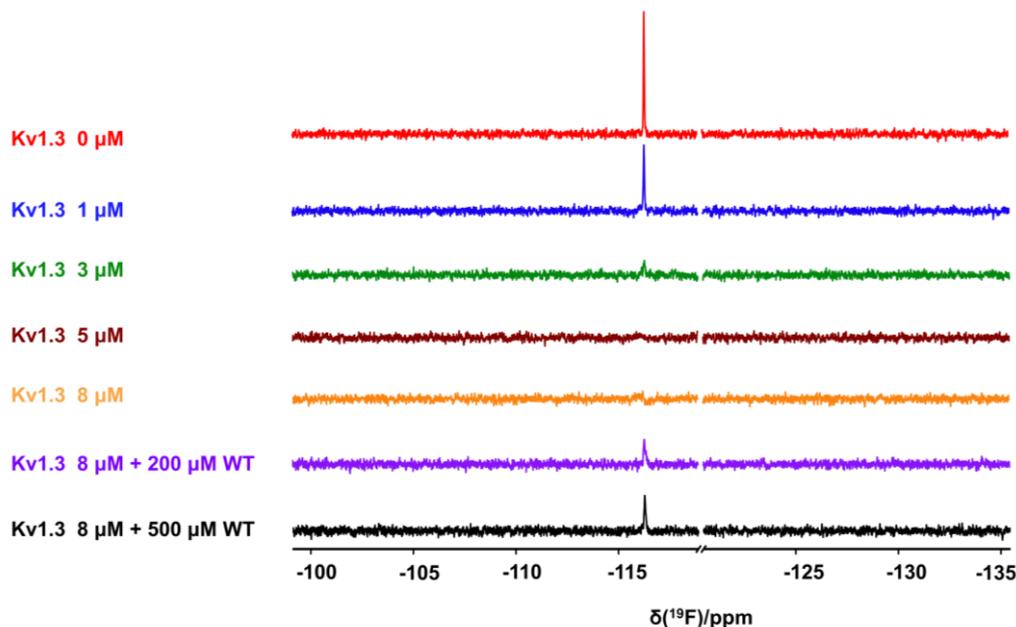
**Figure S15.** Expression and purification of human Kv1.3. (a) Size exclusion chromatogram of the complex. (b) SDS-PAGE of main fractions collected from size exclusion chromatography.



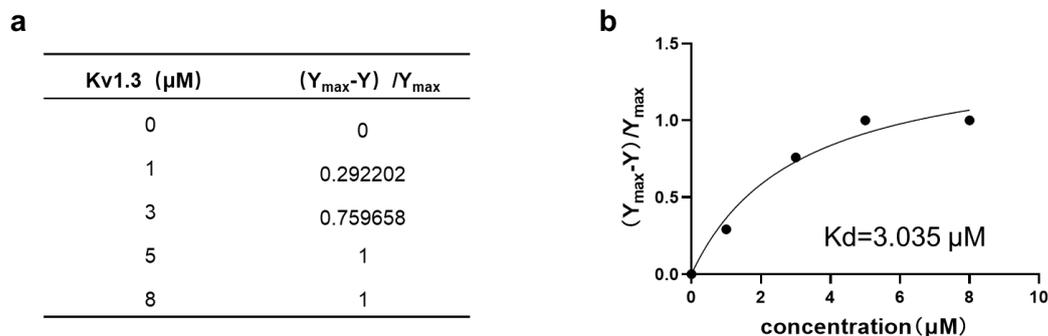
**Figure S16.** The competitive binding assay using a non-competitive inhibitor. The  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectra of peptide 2 (8  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the free state, with Kv 1.3 (8  $\mu\text{M}$ ) addition and with a non-competitive inhibitor. The  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR signal fail to restore when 8 times (200  $\mu\text{M}$ ) peptide 3 was added as a competitive inhibitor. The result demonstrated that the competitive binding assay was specific and affinity-dependent, and further confirming the reliability of  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR-based peptide ligand screening.



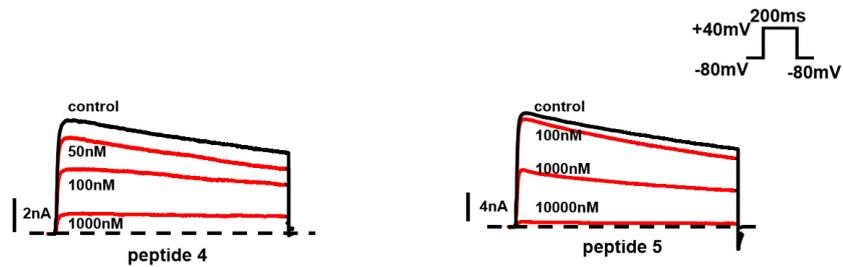
**Figure S17.** In the NMR titration experiments, the  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR signal of peptide 2 (16  $\mu\text{M}$ ) disappeared upon the addition of 20  $\mu\text{M}$  Kv1.3. However, its resonance intensity gradually increased with the stepwise addition of HsTX1-WT, suggesting the competition of peptide 2 from Kv1.3 by HsTX1-WT.



**Figure S18.** The NMR titration experiments of peptide **2** (8  $\mu\text{M}$ ) with increasing concentration of purified Kv1.3 protein. With the addition of Kv1.3 protein, the intensity of the  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR signals of peptide **2** was gradually decreased. The intensity of peptide **2** could be partially restored upon the addition of wild-type HsTX1 competitor. When 8  $\mu\text{M}$  Kv1.3 protein was added, the  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR signals of peptide **2** was completely disappeared.



**Figure S19.** The binding capability of  $^{19}\text{F}$ -labeled HsTx1 peptide with purified Kv1.3 protein was measured with the NMR titration experiments. (a) The ratios of the peak integration of the  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR signals of peptide **2** in Figure S16 are shown. “ $Y_{\text{max}}$ ” is the  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectra of peak integration **2** in the free state, “ $Y$ ” is the  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectra peak integration of peptide **2** with the addition of Kv1.3 protein. (b) Using the software GraphPad for curve fitting, the resulting  $K_d$  Value was determined to be 3.05  $\mu\text{M}$ .



**Figure S20.** Analysis of the inhibitory effects of HsTX1 analogues on Kv1.3 function via patch-clamp electrophysiology experiments. Superimposed current traces of Kv1.3 channels recorded in whole-cell patch clamp experiments with different concentrations of peptide 4 and peptide 5. The cells were held at  $-80$  mV and stepped to  $+40$  mV for 200 ms with an interpulse interval of 30 s.

Peptides	IC <sub>50</sub>
HsTX1-WT	59.31 ± 12.30 pM
peptide 1	0.50 ± 0.047 nM
peptide 2	108.30 ± 16.21 nM
peptide 3	N.D
peptide 4	111.50 ± 25.44 nM
peptide 5	924.90 ± 253.8 nM

**Table S1.** IC<sub>50</sub> values of peptides on Kv1.3. IC<sub>50</sub> values of peptides on Kv1.3 measured using whole-cell patch-clamp recording. All peptides were tested three to five times at five concentrations and IC<sub>50</sub> values were shown as mean values ± SEMs.