

## Electronic Supporting Information

for

### Selectivity of Arsenite Interaction with Zinc Finger Proteins

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#### Content

##### Experimental Details

**Figure S1.** Characterization of the purity of zinc finger proteins.

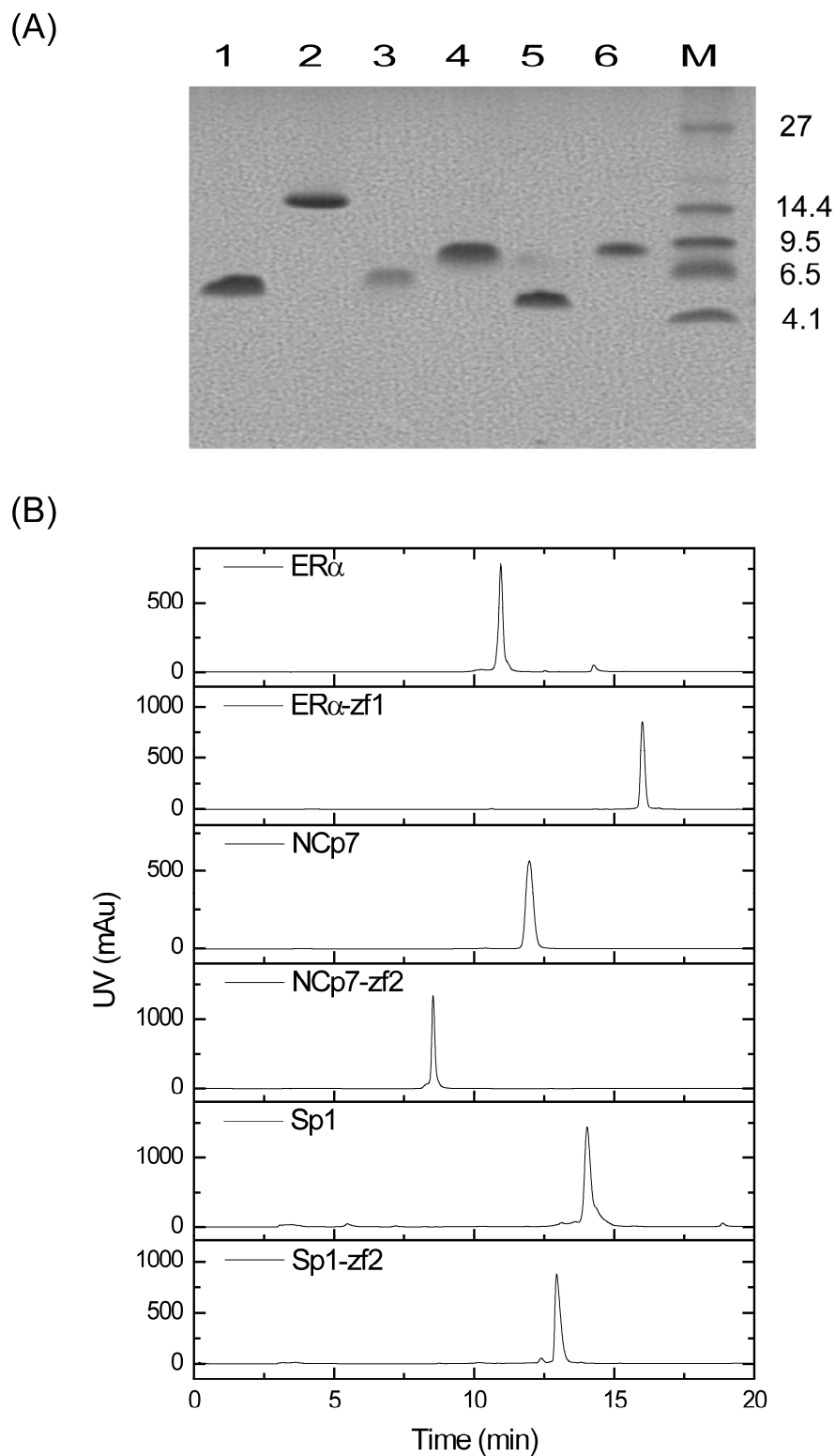
**Figure S2.** Fluorescence titration of zinc finger proteins by arsenite.

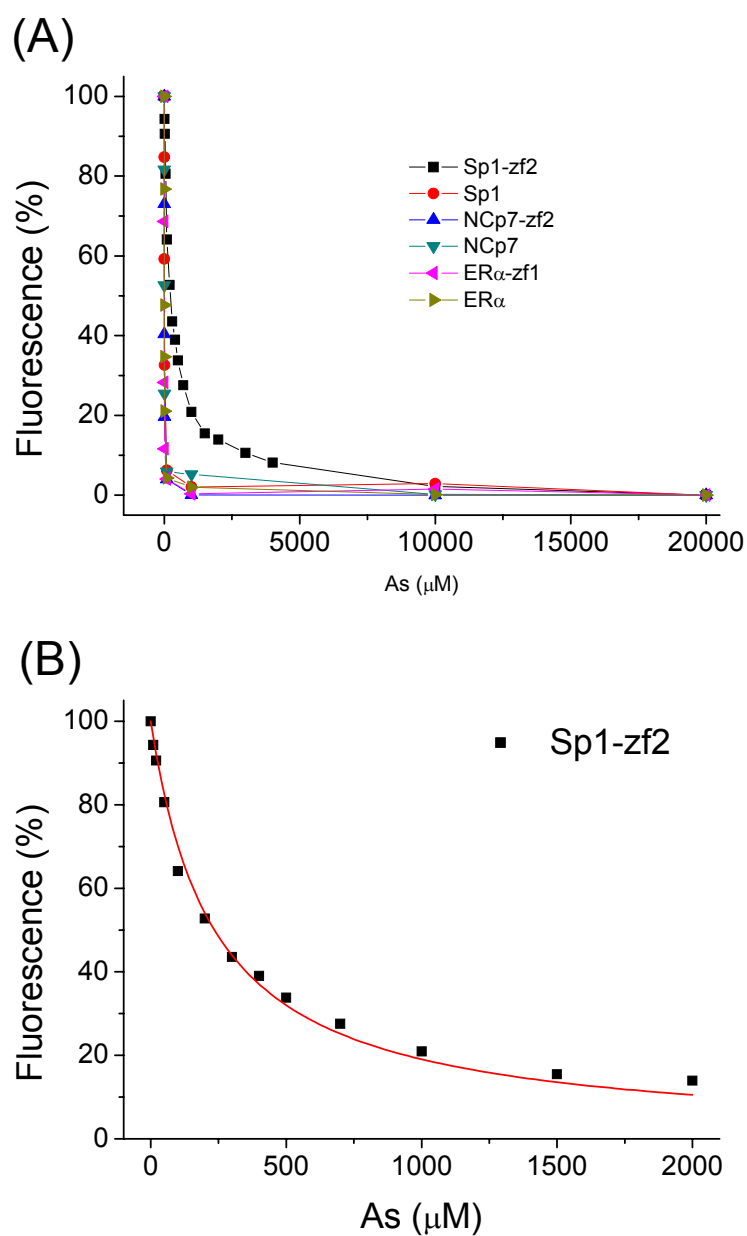
**Figure S3.** ESI-MS mass spectra of zinc finger proteins.

**Table S1.** Analysis of ESI-MS peaks detected in Figure S3.

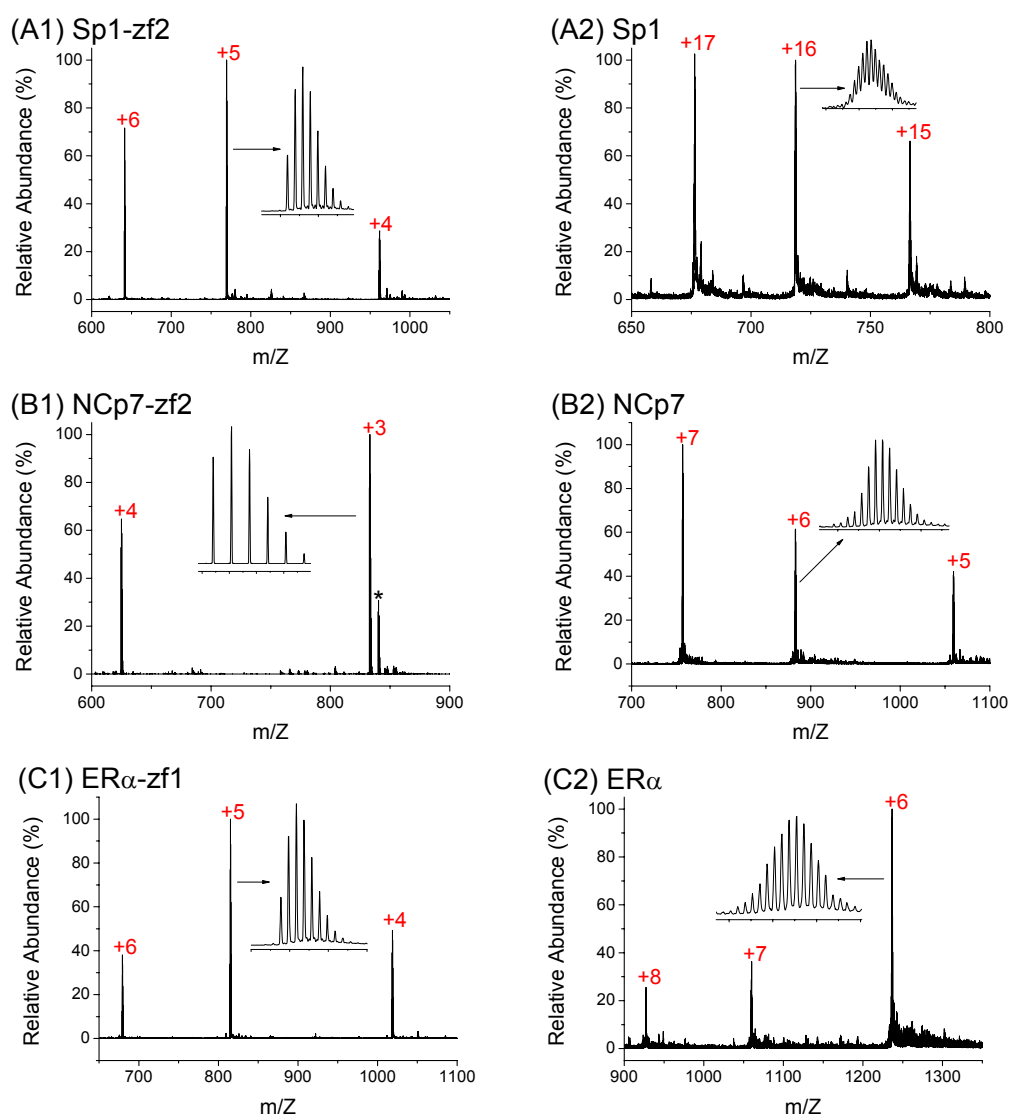
**Figure S4.** Far-UV CD spectra of NCp7 and As-bound product.

**Figure S5.** 2D  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$  HSQC NMR spectra of apo-NCp7 and As-bound product.





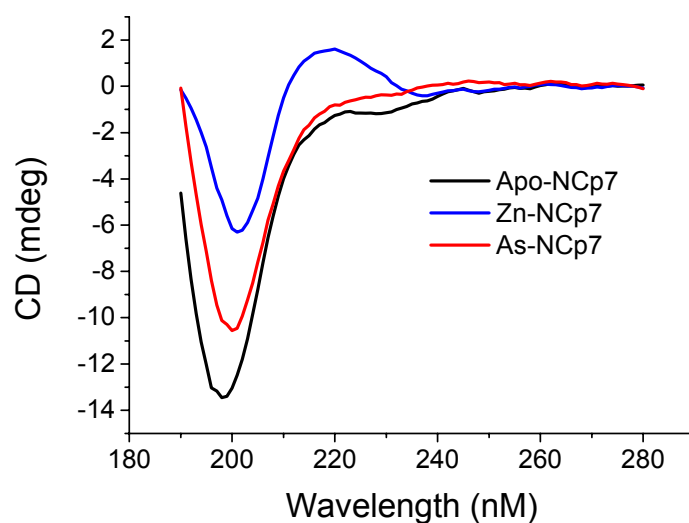
**Figure S2.** (A) Fluorescence of zinc finger proteins titrated by arsenite from 0 to 20 mM. (B) A representative fitting result from the titration of Sp1-zf1. The curve was obtained by nonlinear least-squares fitting of the titration data (■) with the equation  $Y = 100 * K_d / (K_d + X)$ .



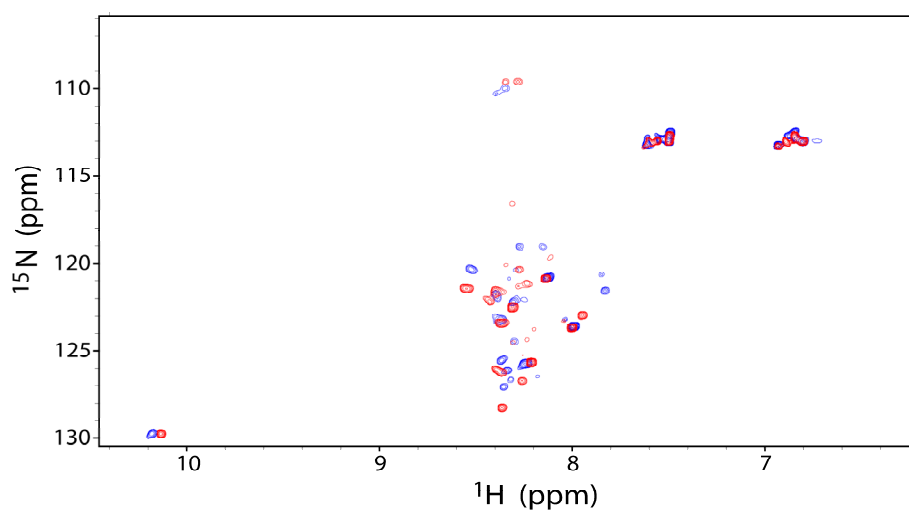
**Figure S3.** ESI-MS mass spectra of zinc finger proteins. Spectra were recorded on 100  $\mu$ M proteins in ultrapure water in the presence of 1 mM TCEP. (A1) Sp1-zf2; (A2) Sp1; (B1) NCp7-zf2; (B2) NCp7; (C1) ER $\alpha$ -zf1; (C2) ER $\alpha$ . The assignments and molecular weights are listed in Table S1.

**Table S1.** The analysis of ESI-MS peaks detected in Figure 4S.

Protein	Molecular Formula	m/Z (charge)	Mw: obsd./cald.
Sp1-zf2	$C_{165}H_{257}N_{55}O_{46}S_3$	641.49 (+6)	3842.93/3842.87
		769.59 (+5)	
		961.73 (+4)	
Sp1	$C_{498}H_{786}N_{166}O_{133}S_8$	676.47 (+17)	11482.90/11482.78
		718.68 (+16)	
		766.52 (+15)	
NCp7-zf2	$C_{100}H_{162}N_{34}O_{33}S_4$	625.03 (+4)	2496.12/2496.10
		833.04 (+3)	
	$C_{100}H_{161}N_{34}O_{33}S_4Na$	840.37 (+3)	2518.10/2818.08
NCp7	$C_{217}H_{357}N_{77}O_{64}S_7$	757.07 (+7)	5292.46/5292.52
		883.07 (+6)	
		1059.48 (+5)	
ER $\alpha$ -zf1	$C_{180}H_{261}N_{49}O_{52}S_4$	679.48 (+6)	4070.87/4070.82
		815.17 (+5)	
		1018.72 (+4)	
ER $\alpha$	$C_{309}H_{474}N_{100}O_{96}S_9$	927.66 (+8)	7413.28/7413.28
		1060.04 (+7)	
		1236.54 (+6)	



**Figure S4.** Far-UV CD spectra of apo-NCp7 (black), Zn-NCp7 (blue) and As-bound product with 10 molar equivalent of NaAsO<sub>2</sub> (red). 25  $\mu$ M protein was used in 20 mM phosphate buffer, pH 7.0, 20 mM NaCl, and 0.2 mM TCEP.



**Figure S5.** Overlay of 2D <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>15</sup>N HSQC NMR spectra of apo-NCp7 (red) and As-coordinated NCp7 (blue) at 298K and pH 7.0 in 50 mM phosphate buffer, 100 mM NaCl and 2 mM TCEP. 1 mM <sup>15</sup>N labeled NCp7 was used in the experiment, and NaAsO<sub>2</sub> was 10 times excess for complete coordination of the protein. No protein aggregation was formed with the addition of arsenite, and the identical NMR condition was used for the two samples.