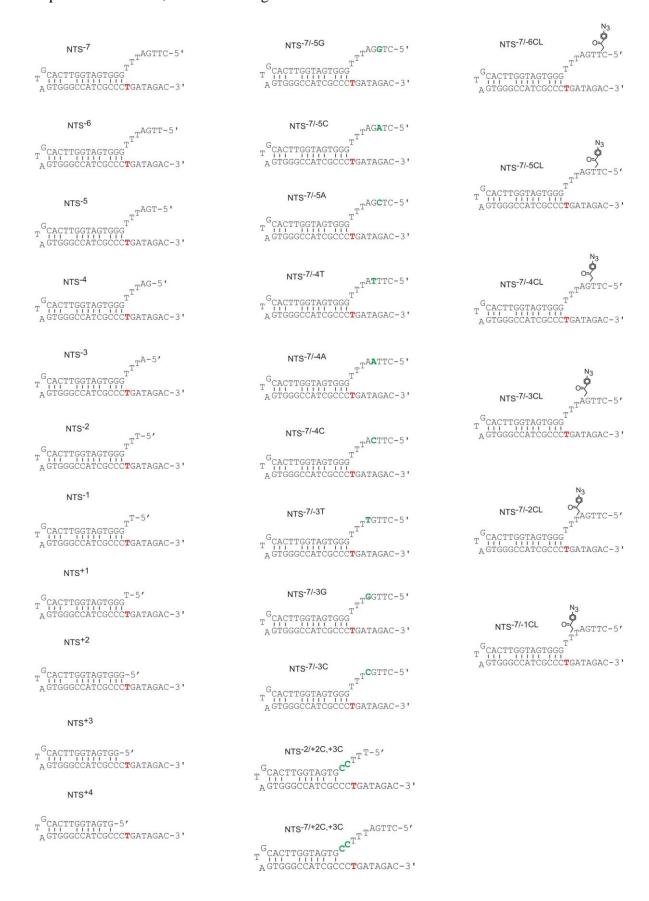
**Supplementary Figure 1.** M13ori promoter derivatives used in our study. +1TSS on the template strand is red, mutations are green.



**Supplementary Figure 2. A.** Activity of APAB modified NTS<sup>-7</sup> promoters in transcription. An extra band in the middle of the gel originates from transcription on a shorter DNA fragment contaminating phosphorothiolated oligos. **B.** UV-induced DNA/protein cross-link with  $E\sigma^{70}$  on radiolabeled NTS<sup>-7/-4CL</sup> before and after NTPs addition.

