## **Supplementary information**

Figures S1-S5.

## A dual compartment cuvette system for correcting scattering in whole-cell absorbance spectroscopy of photosynthetic microorganisms

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Fig. S1 Comparison of whole-cell absorbance spectra with the dual compartment cuvette (slit width 5 nm). Samples were analysed using the integrating sphere (black) or in the dual compartment cuvette with 0 (red), 0.1 (purple), 0.2 (green), 0.5 (yellow) or 1 (orange) mg.mL<sup>-1</sup> TiO<sub>2</sub>. Results are not standardised. The mean of three samples is displayed.



Fig. S2 Comparison of whole-cell absorbance spectra with the dual compartment cuvette (slit width 1 nm). Samples were analysed using the integrating sphere (black) or in the dual compartment cuvette with 0 (red) or 1 (orange) mg.mL<sup>-1</sup> TiO<sub>2</sub>. Results are not standardised. The mean of three samples is displayed.



**Fig. S3 Comparison of whole-cell absorbance spectra with Scotch<sup>TM</sup> Magic tape** (slit width 5 nm). Samples were analysed using the integrating sphere (black) or in the single compartment cuvette coated with 0 (red), 1 (green), 5 (yellow) or 10 (orange) pieces of Scotch<sup>TM</sup> Magic tape. Results are not standardised. The mean of three samples is displayed.



**Fig. S4 Comparison of whole-cell absorbance spectra with Scotch<sup>TM</sup> Magic tape** (slit width 1 nm). Samples were analysed using the integrating sphere (black) or in the single compartment cuvette coated with 0 (red) or 10 (orange) pieces of Scotch<sup>TM</sup> Magic tape. Results are not standardised. The mean of three samples is displayed.



10 **0** 10

#Tape

1 nm slit

0 10

#Tape

1 nm slit

#Tape

#Tape 1 nm slit

10

Fig. S5 Differences compared to results obtaining using the integrating sphere. Average differences between 400 - 750 nm (400 - 900 nm for R. palustris) results obtained using the four methods outlined in this paper compared to the optimal data acquired via the integrating sphere.