## Supporting Information

## A code with a twist: Supraparticle microrod composites with direction dependent optical properties as anti-counterfeit label

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Figure S1. Magnetisation measurements of a) type A (iron oxide) and b) type B (iron oxide with a  $SiO_2$  shell) microrods.



Figure S2. The width of splitting of the intensity of the curves below and above the wavelength of intersection varies depending on the orientation angle of the microrods to the incident light beams (which are oriented parallel II and perpendicularly  $\perp$  to the cuvette), however, the intersection is invariant to the change of illumination angle.



Figure S3. COMSOL simulated extinction cross-sections depending on the polarization direction  $-45^{\circ}$ ,  $0^{\circ}$ ,  $45^{\circ}$  and  $90^{\circ}$  in the case of light propagation perpendicular to the microrod main axis and their mean value representing non-polarized light for Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> a) extraordinary and b) ordinary rays, as well as c) Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>.



Figure S4. COMSOL simulated extinction, absorption and scattering cross-sections exemplarily shown for the case of light propagation a) perpendicular and b) parallel to the microrod main axis for a spheroid consisting of  $Fe_3O_4$ . The extinction cross-section is obtained by the addition of absorption and scattering.