* If a and b independently determine c, controlling for b will increase the explanatory power of a vs. c, and vice-versa. (Other more complex scenarios are also possible.)

This may therefore explain the >100% values observed, which is consistent with the networks illustrated in Figs. 6b and S6. The dataset with mir-246::GFP and age

pigment values was too small to reliably calculate an overall partial-correlation network, so age pigment slope is not directly placed in the mir-246::GFP network in Fig. S6; however the >100% controlled-correlation values suggest that mir-246 influences longevity completely independently from autofluorescence accumulation.

mir-71::GFP PCA 0.475 (p<0.0001 n=146) 4.8% (p=0.0684 n=146) 67.2% (p<0.0001 n=146) 30.0% (p<0.0001 n=146) 70.9% (p<0.0001 n=146) mir-246::GFP

All correlations include days 3-7 mean and

which only use the slope measure.

slope values, except for mir-246 and mir-239,