**Additional file 13.** Paired plots from the principal component analysis for the DNA methylation data in the preprocessing stage. Panels present principal components (PCs) 1-3 with the largest proportion of explained variance before (panel a, upper) and after (panel b, lower) 'Combat correction'. The data is coloured based on the age group (young controls=black, nonagenarians=grey). PC2 clusters the data according to separate measurement days ('the batch effect') in panel a.

