



Group 1

# Group Project Presentation

**Causal Effect of Coughing on Car  
Accidents**

University of Amsterdam - Causal Data Science

# DISCUSSION POINTS

## OVERVIEW

- Dataset
- Exploratory Data Analysis
- Estimands
- Causal Discovery
- Validation & Sensitivity Analysis
- Conclusion

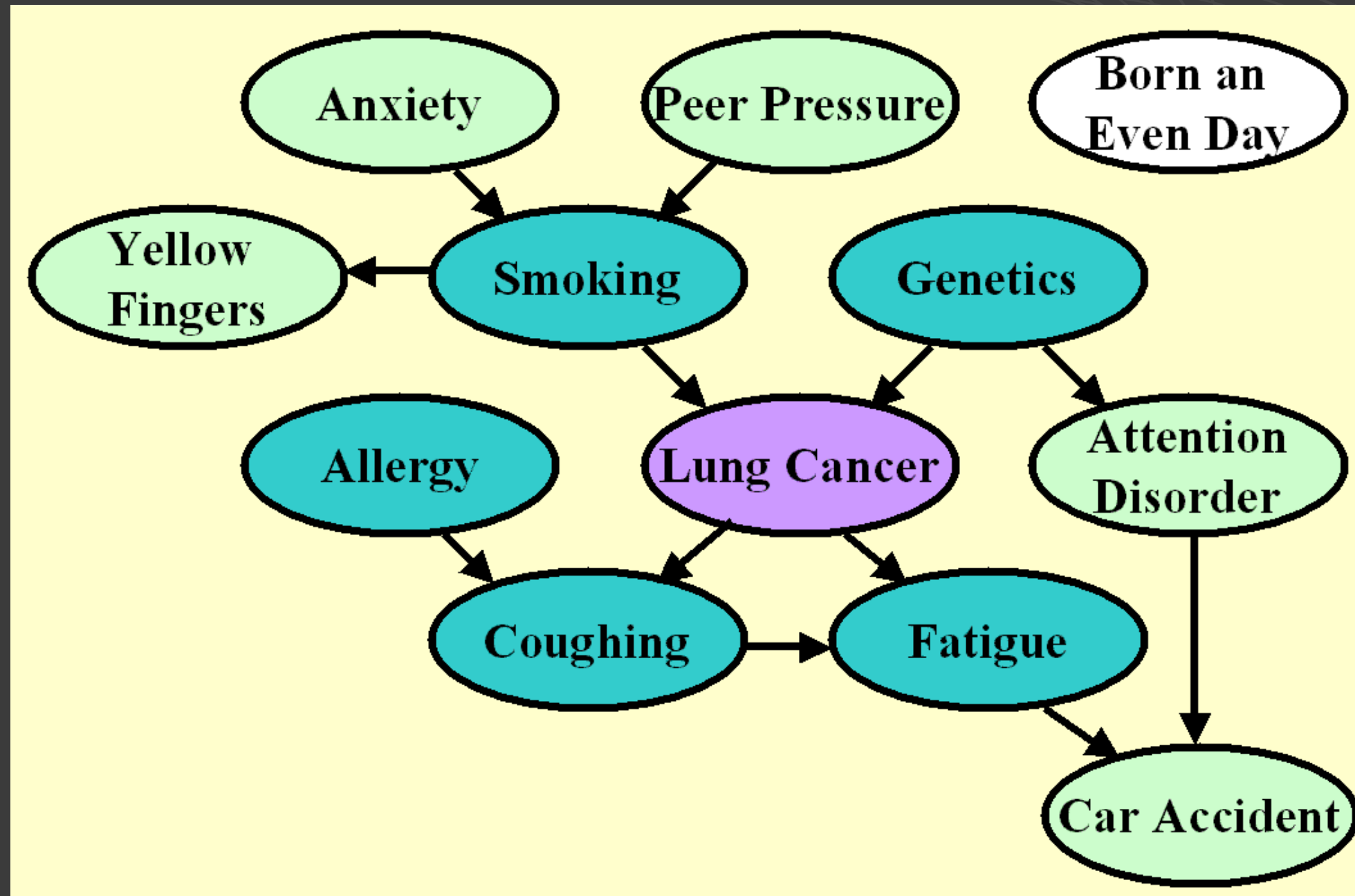
# THE DATASET

## DESCRIPTION

- LUCAS – LUng CAncer Simple set
  - LUCAS0 was used
- Artificially generated by causal Bayesian Network
- Contains only binary data
- The true causal graph is known
- Probabilities for graph are known as well

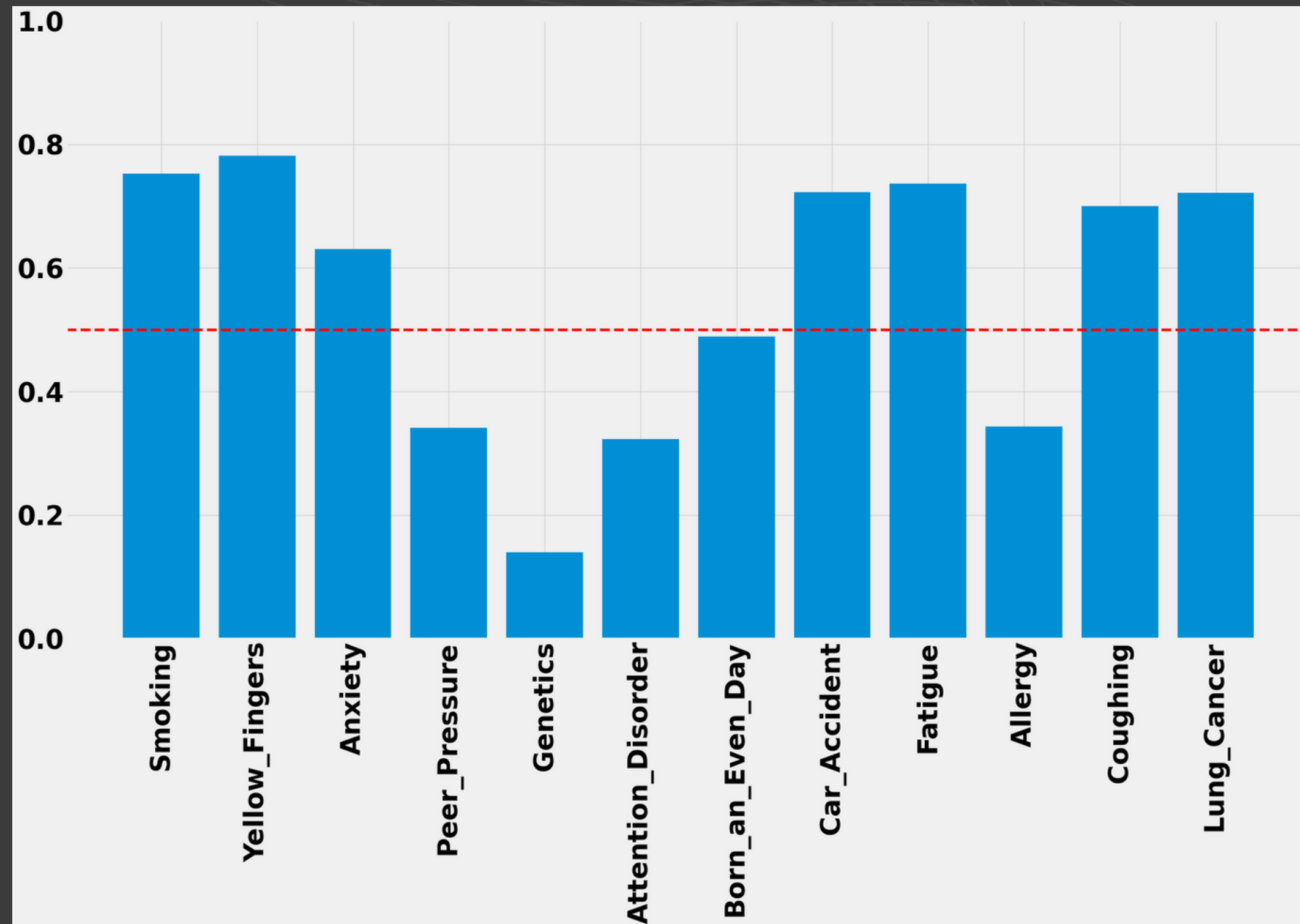
# THE DATASET

## CAUSAL GRAPH



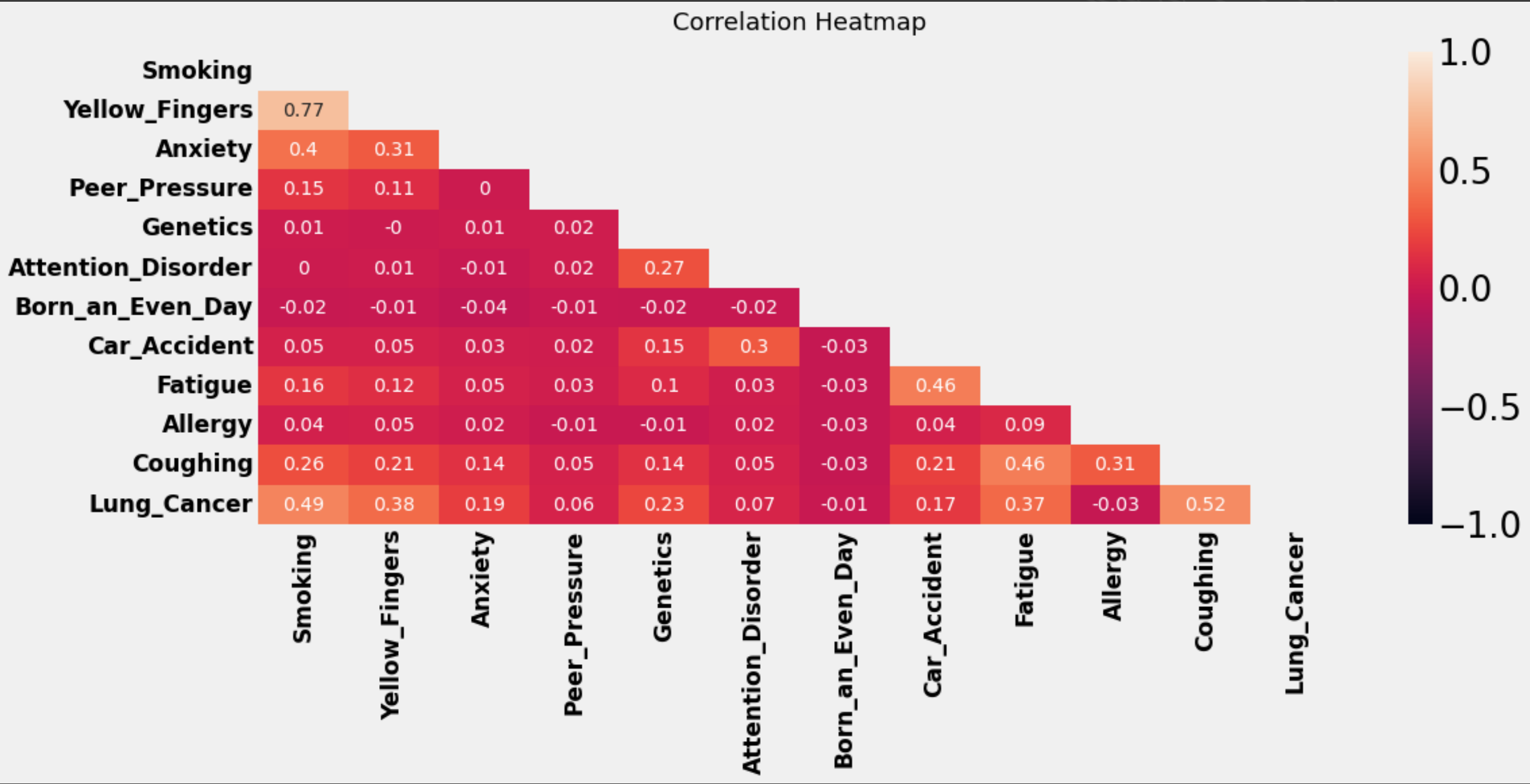
# EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS

## MEAN VALUES



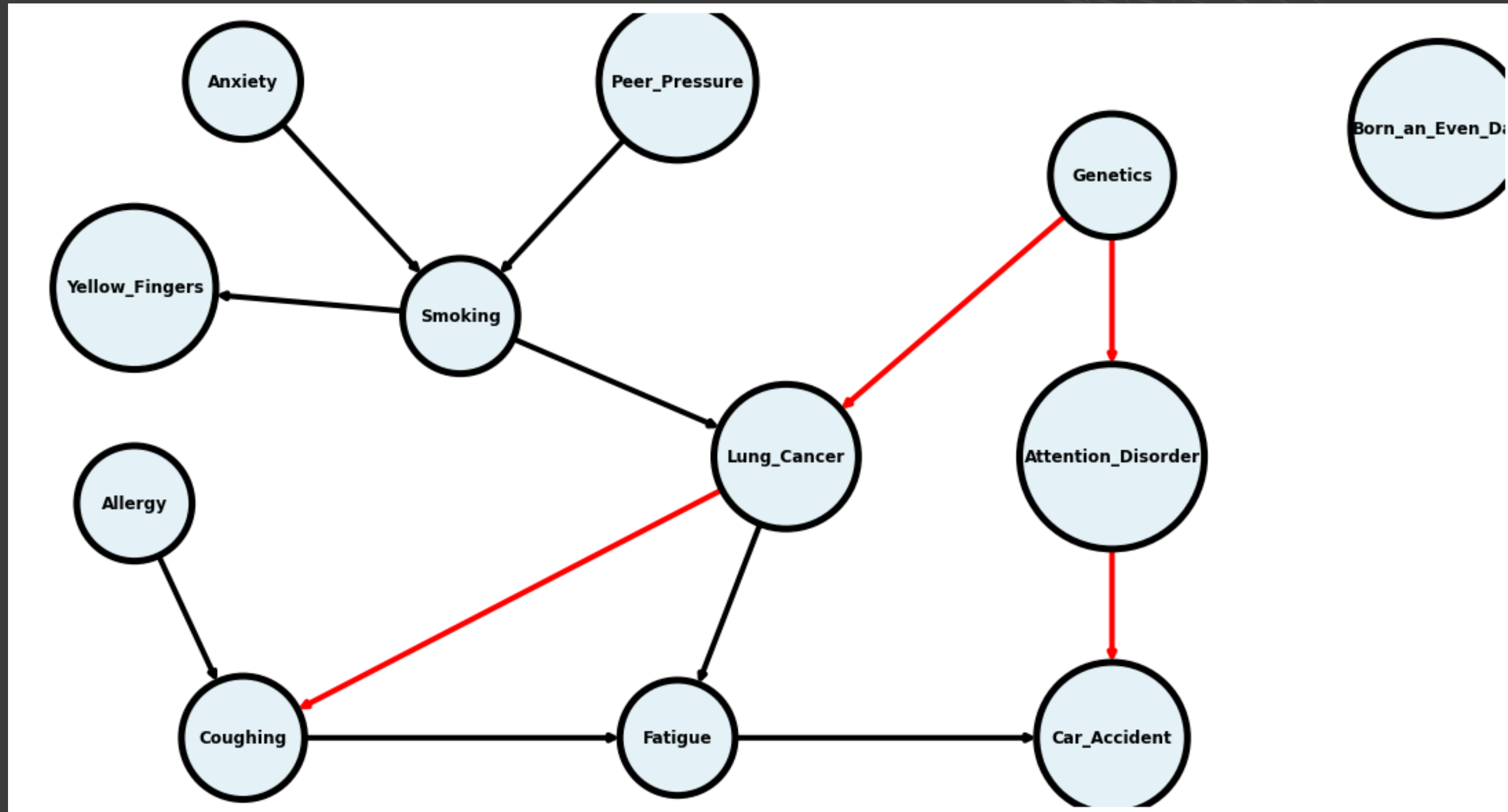
# EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS

## CORRELATION VALUES



# IDENTIFYING ESTIMANDS

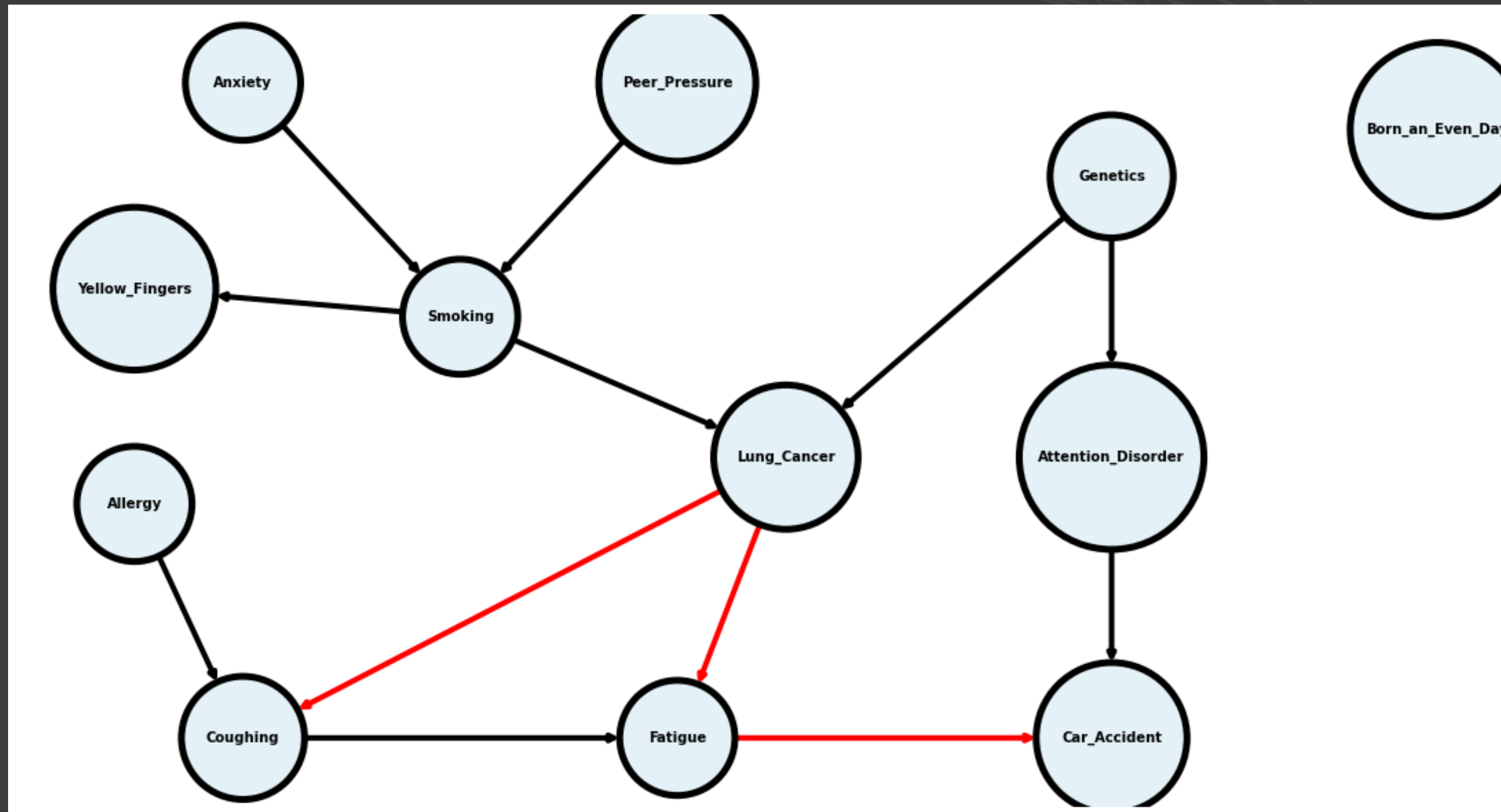
## BACKDOOR PATHS





# IDENTIFYING ESTIMANDS

## BACKDOOR PATHS





# IDENTIFYING ESTIMANDS

- Frontdoor Paths are apparent
- Instrumental variables are apparent
- However, backdoor path is observed
- Therefore, those two approaches are not important for this work

# ESTIMATING CAUSAL EFFECT

## LOGISTIC REGRESSION

**Car Accident ~ Coughing**

**Intercept:** 0.34

**Coefficients:** 0.94

**Car Accident ~ Coughing + Lung Cancer**

**Intercept:** 0.19

**Coefficients:** 0.74 & 0.41

**Accuracy:** 72.3 %

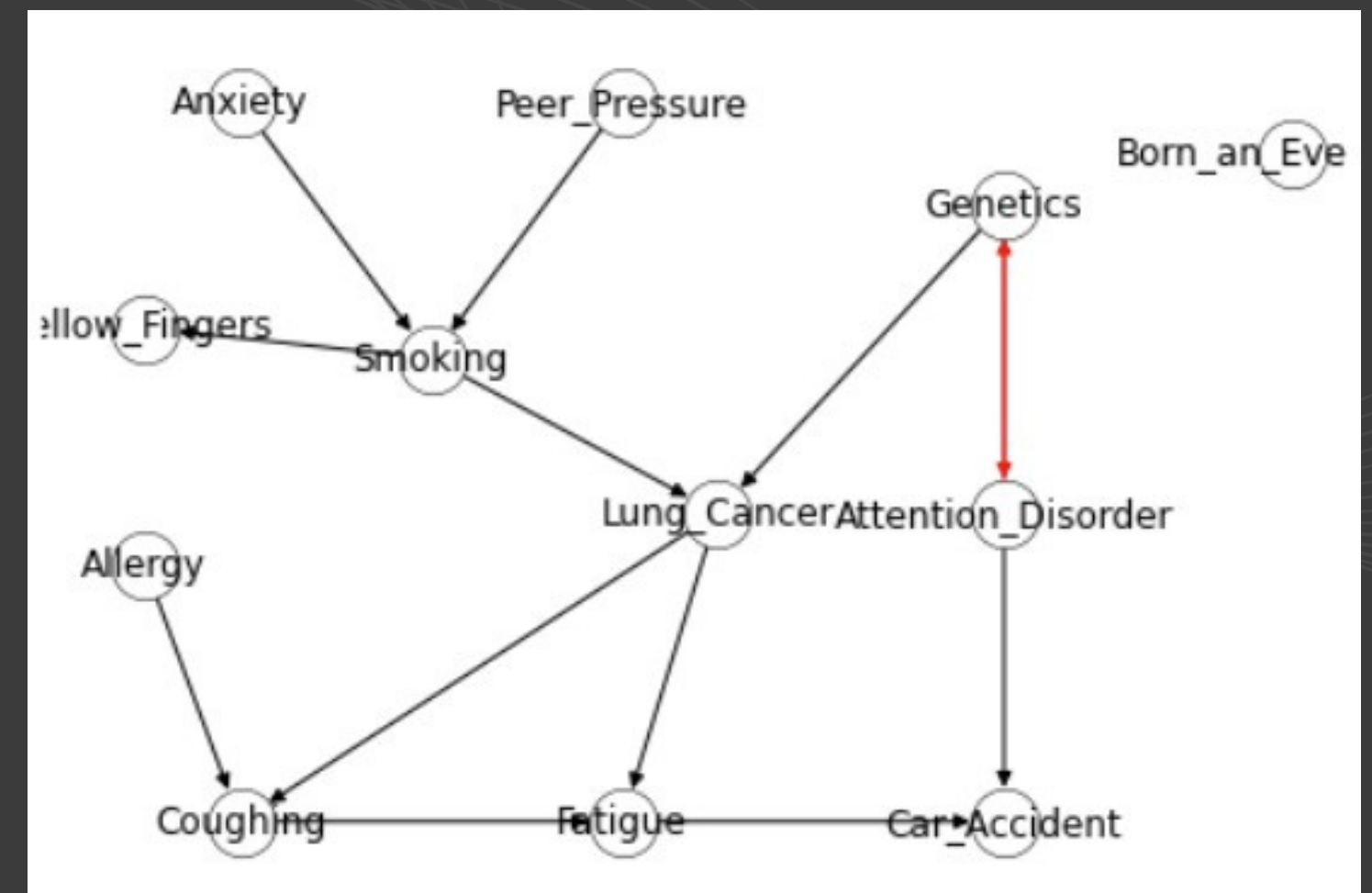
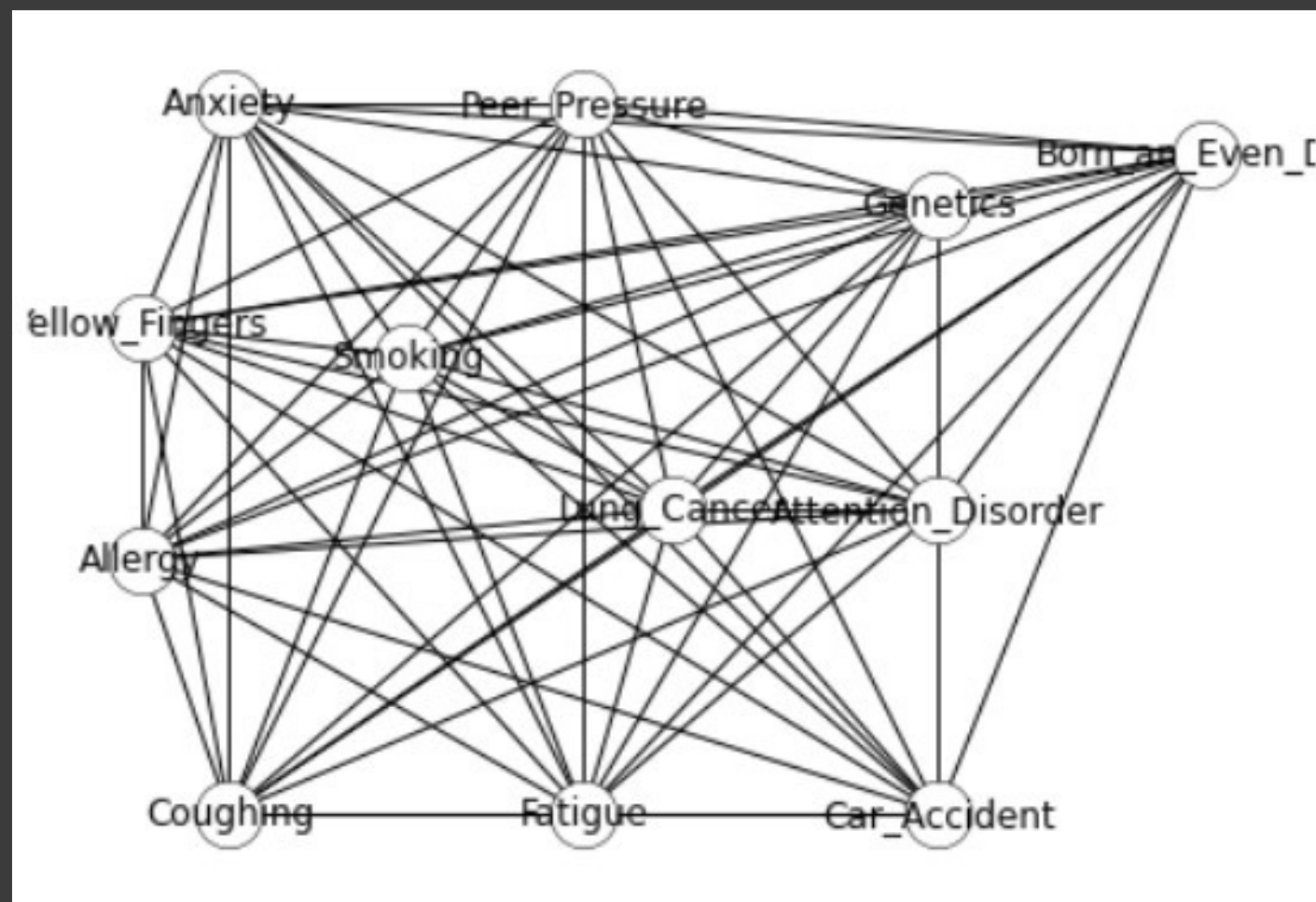
# RESULTS

## LOGISTIC REGRESSION

Coughing	Lung Cancer	Probability Car Accident
0	0	0.55
0	1	0.64
1	0	0.73
1	1	0.79

# CAUSAL DISCOVERY

## PC ALGORITHM

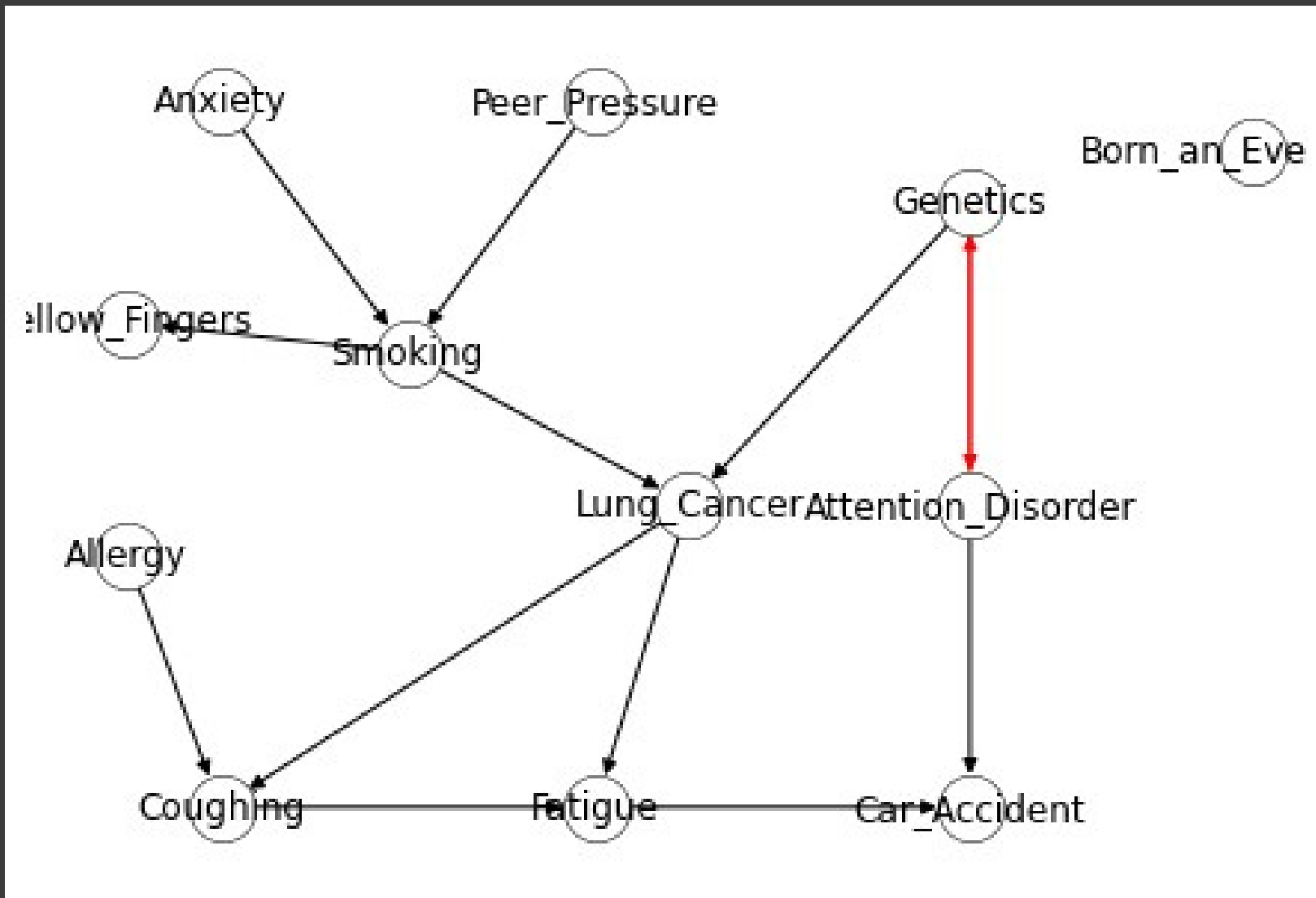


Edge Removal: Pingouin's partial correlation tests ( $\alpha = 0.01$ )

Edge Direction: Using V-structures and independences found during edge removal

# CAUSAL DISCOVERY

## GES ALGORITHM



- GES algorithm is a score-based method (requiring the choice of a score function)
- Does not depend on conditional independence tests.
- GES always operates in the space of essential graphs
- Returns a valid essential graph (CPDAG)
  - Exactly same as resulting graph in PC algorithm
  - The edge between Genetics and Attention disorder is not directed

# VALIDATION

## SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

Add a Random Common Cause	Add an Unobserved Common Cause	Use a subset of data
Estimated effect:0.1579 New effect:0.1578 p value:0.4599	Estimated effect: 0.15786 New effect: 0.1024	Estimated effect: 0.158 New effect: 0.1599 p value: 0.47

# CONCLUSION

- Causal problem: Coughing  $\rightarrow$  Car Accidents
- Valid adjustment set: {Lung Cancer}
- Estimated causal effect:  $\sim 0.16$
- Coughing does increase the chance of having a car accident by around 16%
- PC and GES algorithm found the same causal graph



**THANK YOU**