# GENE EXPRESSION ANALYSIS LUNG CANCER

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# NOWAC

- The Norwegian Women and Cancer cohort study.
- 1991: Oral contraceptives questionnaires
- 2003: Whole-genome expression by microarrays in peripheral blood cells
- At present:
  - 170 000 women aged 30-70 years at recruitement
  - 50 000 blood samples
  - Diet, smoking, parity, cosmetics, sun bathing, ....
  - Breast tissue, blood drawn at hospital, ...

#### REGISTRIES

- Cancer Registry of Norway
- The Norwegian Central Person Register
- ....
- Unique 11-digit personal number

# LUNG CANCER

- Case-control prospective
- Matched on age and year of sampling
- Blood sampled 1-7 years before diagnosis
- Metastasis status
- Smoking habits from questionnaire
- Gene expression
- Methylation

# GENE EXPRESSION

- 268 women
- 8 were lost in the lab
- 12 pooled samples for quality control
  - Mix of 10 healthy women

#### ILLUMINA BEAD CHIP

- 47 000 unique probes
- 15-45 replicates for each probe
- 770 negative controls
- a few positive controls

#### EXPRESSION LEVEL

- Trimmed median and standard deviation for each probe
- Negative probes
  - Estimate independent noise
  - Detect non-expressed probes

## PRE-PROCESSING

- Outlier detection and removal
- Noise estimation: Cross-hybridization

## Analysis

- Researcher's degrees of freedom
- Multiple testing
- Use exploratory tools to do exploratory research!