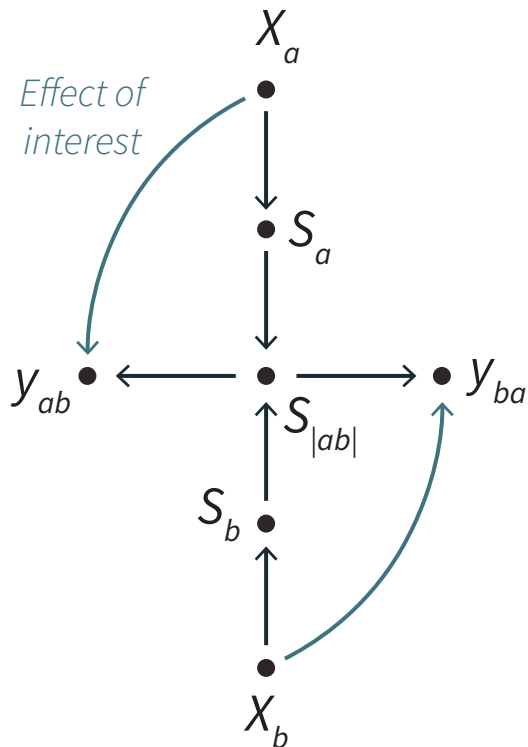**A.** Causal diagram

B. Statistical estimates of the direct effect of X_a on y_{ab}

Effect of interest

X_a

S_a

y_{ab}

$S_{|ab|}$

y_{ba}

S_b

X_b

Not adjusted by $S_{|ab|}$
Biased

True value

Posterior estimate

Adjusted by $S_{|ab|}$
Accurate