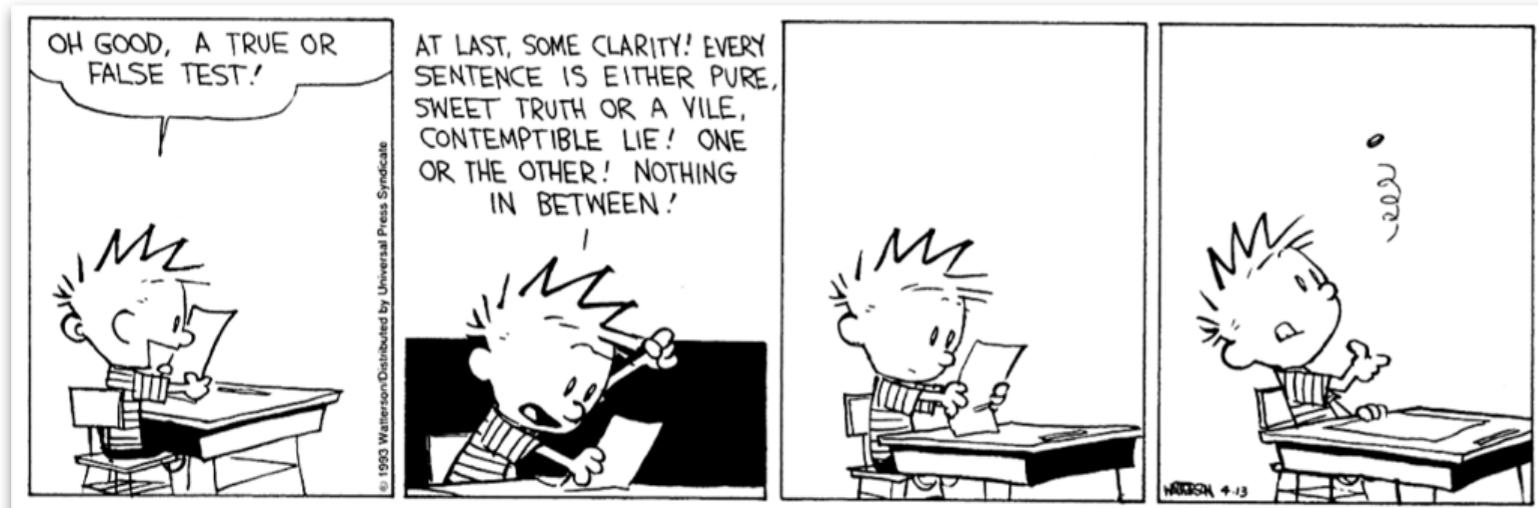


# Linear mixed effects models 1



We're listening to "It runs through me" by "Tom Misch, De La Soul" submitted by Thing Thinker

Chat

If you could only listen to one artist for the rest of your life, who would it be?

To: Everyone ▾ More ▾

Type message here...

COLLABORATIVE PLAYLIST

**psych252**

<https://tinyurl.com/psych252spotify22>

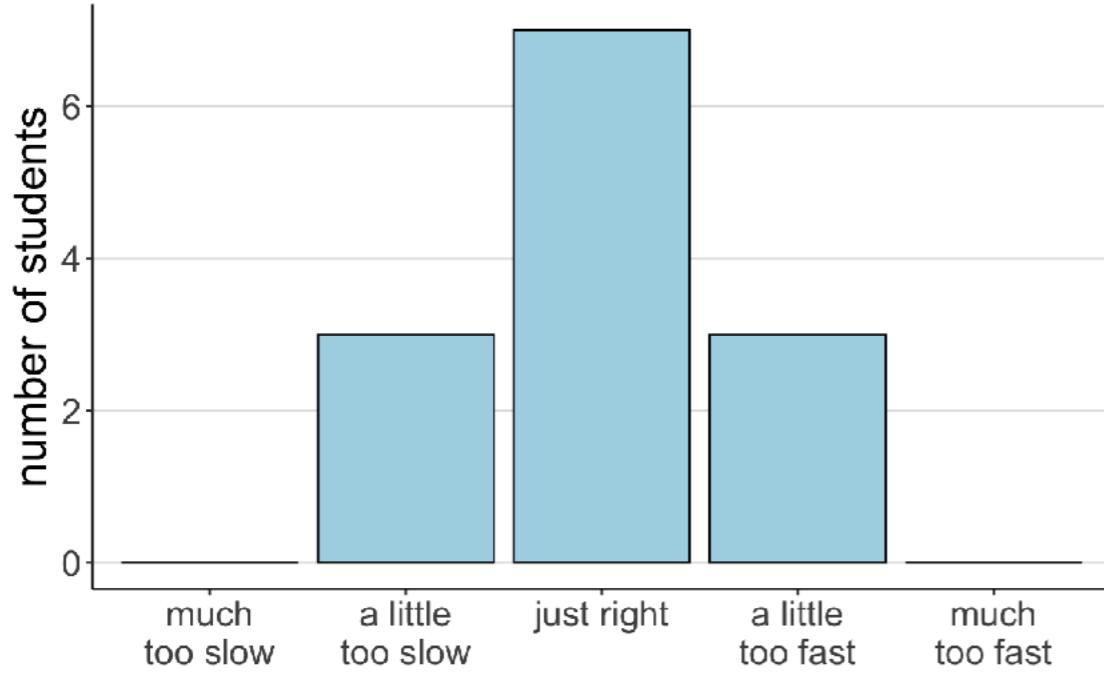
PLAY ...

02/14/2022

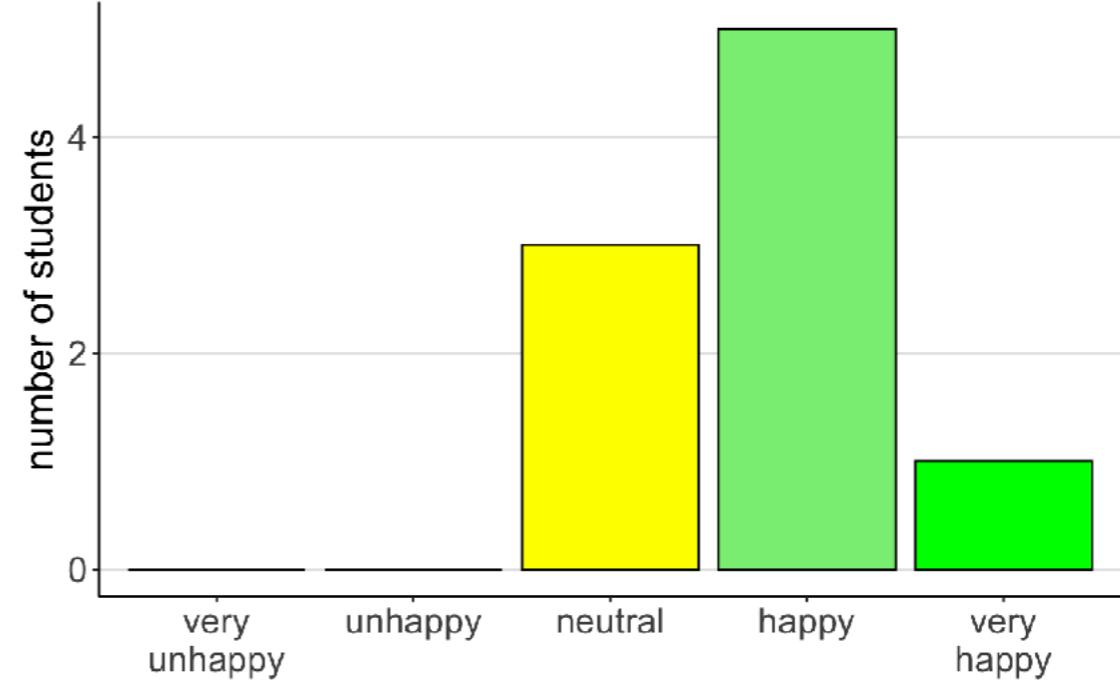
# Your feedback

# Your feedback

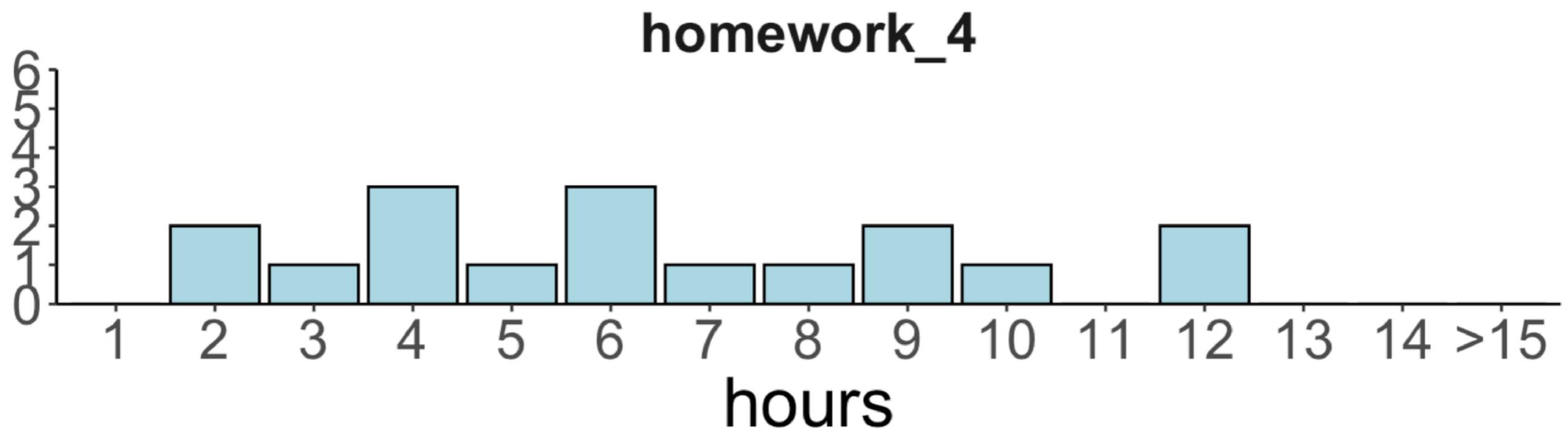
How was the pace of today's class?



How happy were you with today's class overall?



# Homework 4





Start the presentation to see live content. For screen share software, share the entire screen. Get help at [pollev.com/app](https://pollev.com/app)

# Plan for today

- Quick recap
- Observation, intervention, counterfactual
- Controlling for variables
  - Patterns of inference
  - Should I control?
- Mediation
- Moderation
- Linear mixed effects model
  - Modeling dependence in data

# Quick recap

# Quick recap: Model comparison



More complex models fit the data better.

We need to trade-off **model fit** and model **complexity**.

# Quick recap: Model comparison

1. compare the proportional reduction in error using  
`anova()`
  - only works for nested models
2. cross-validation
  - works generally, but can take some time ...
  - different cross-validation procedures (LOO, k-fold, Monte Carlo)
3. AIC, BIC
  - works as long as we can compute the likelihood of the data
  - some discussion whether number of parameters is a good measure of model complexity
4. Bayesian model comparison

# Quick recap: AIC and BIC

- AIC = Akaike Information Criterion
- BIC = Bayesian Information Criterion

**not that much Bayesian about it ...**

$$AIC = 2k - 2 \ln(\hat{L})$$

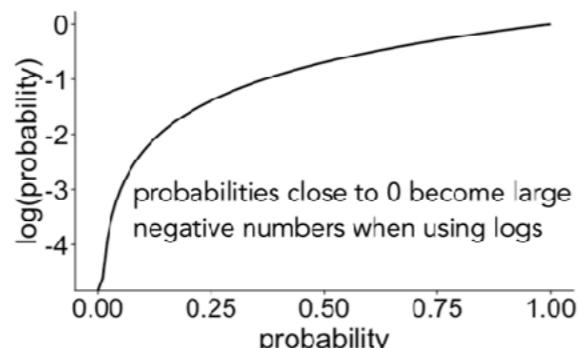
$$BIC = \ln(n)k - 2 \ln(\hat{L})$$

$\hat{L}$  = maximized value of the likelihood function of the model

$k$  = number of parameters in the model

$n$  = number of observations

**log()** is your friend!



**multiplying probabilities**

$$0.01 \cdot 0.01 \cdot 0.01 \cdot 0.01 = 0.00000001$$

**number becomes extremely small quickly**

**take log()**

$$\log(0.01) = -4.60517$$

**number becomes large but that's ok**

**summing logs**

$$(-4.60517) + (-4.60517) + (-4.60517) + (-4.60517) = -18.42068$$

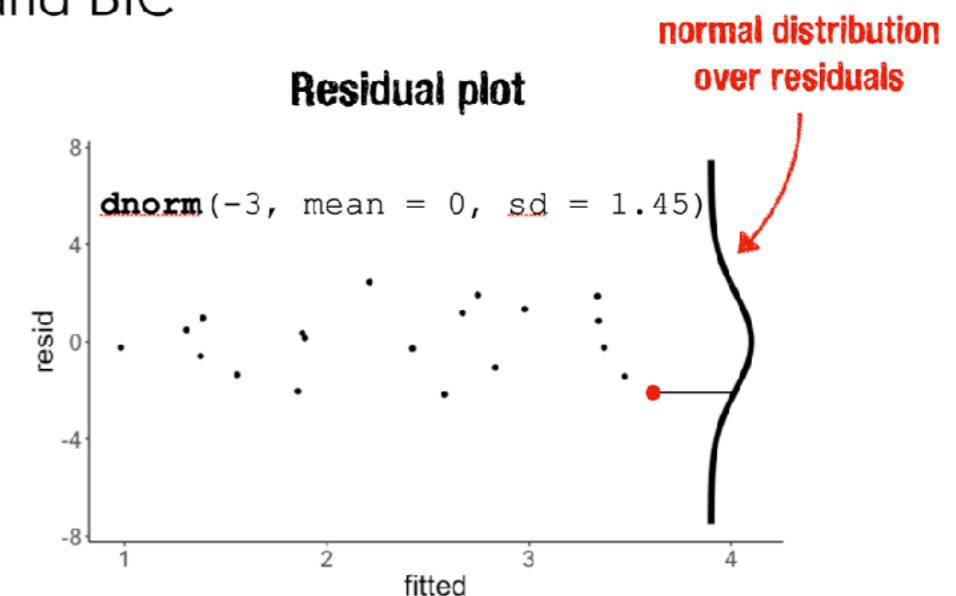
**transform back into probability**

$$\exp(-18.42068) = 0.00000001$$

**often not necessary since we just use logLikelihood**

## AIC and BIC

### Residual plot



since the data points are independent, we can calculate the overall likelihood by multiplying the likelihood of each observation

## AIC and BIC

```
1 # generate some data
2 df.like = tibble(
3   x = runif(20, min = 0, max = 1),
4   y = 1 + 3 * x + rnorm(20, sd = 2)
5 )
6
7 # fit the model
8 fit = lm(formula = y ~ x,
9           data = df.like)
10
11 # model summary
12 fit %>%
13   glance()
```

`dnorm(1.88, mean = 0, sd = 1.45) = 0.12`

x	y	fitted	resid	likelihood
0.90	5.22	3.34	1.88	0.12
0.27	0.20	1.56	-1.36	0.18
0.37	-0.18	1.80	-2.04	0.10
0.57	2.14	2.42	-0.28	0.27
0.91	3.13	3.37	-0.24	0.27
0.20	0.78	1.38	-0.59	0.25
0.90	4.20	3.34	0.86	0.23
0.94	2.05	3.47	-1.42	0.17
0.66	3.85	2.67	1.18	0.20
0.63	0.41	2.58	-2.17	0.09

**inferred standard deviation of the error**

$$\sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{ln}(\text{likelihood})}$$

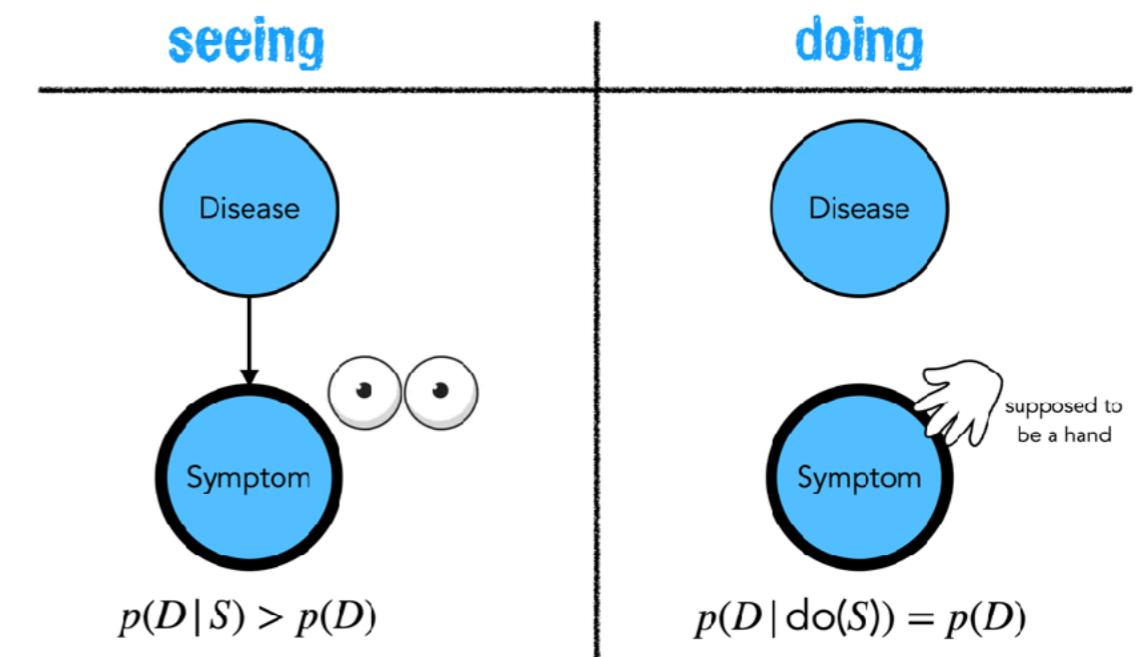
r.squared	adj.r.squared	sigma	statistic	p.value	df	logLik	AIC	BIC	deviance	df.residual
0.25	0.21	1.45	6.16	0.02	2	-34.74	75.47	78.46	37.77	18

$e \sim \mathcal{N}(\text{mean} = 0, \text{sd} = 1.45)$

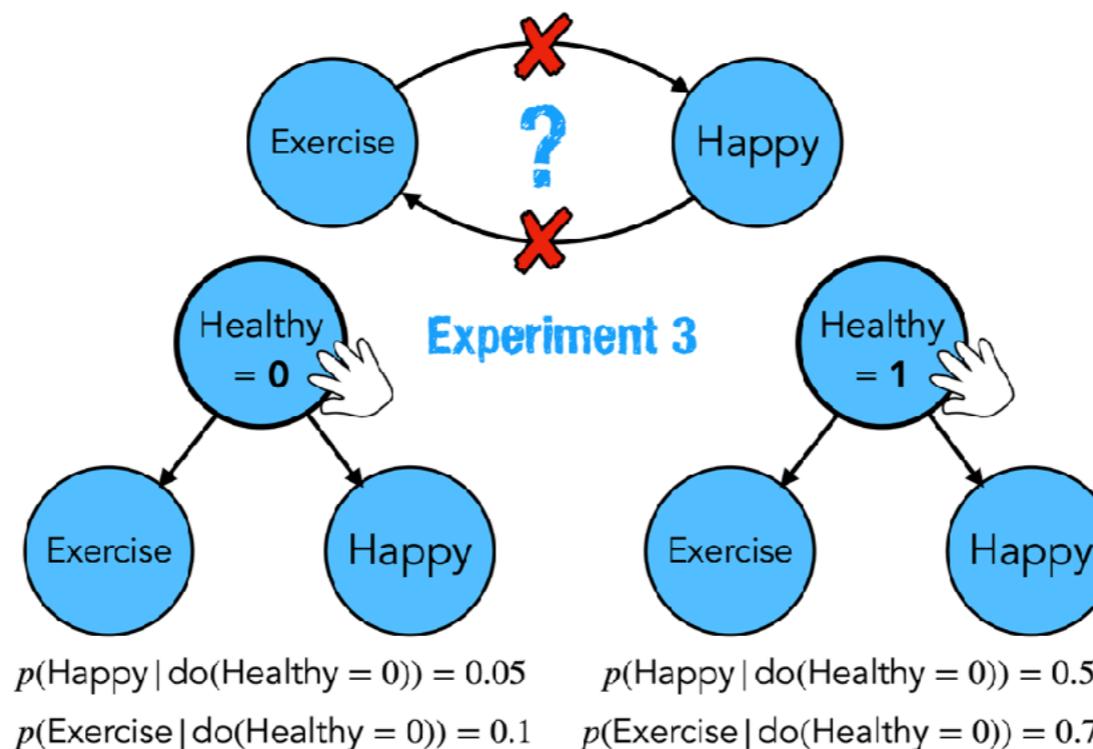
# Quick recap: causation vs. correlation



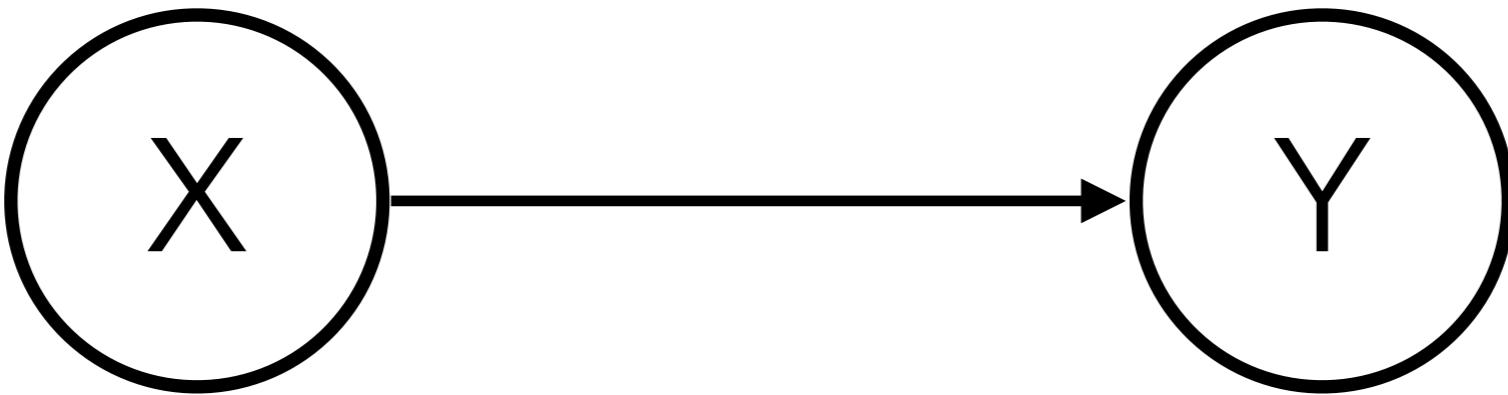
Observation vs. Intervention



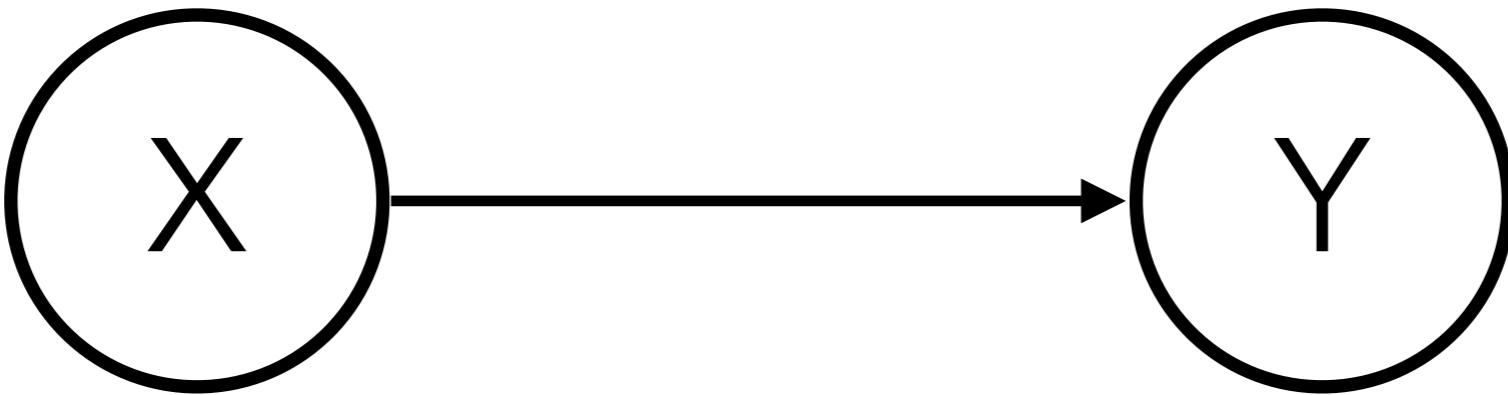
Inferring causal structure through intervention



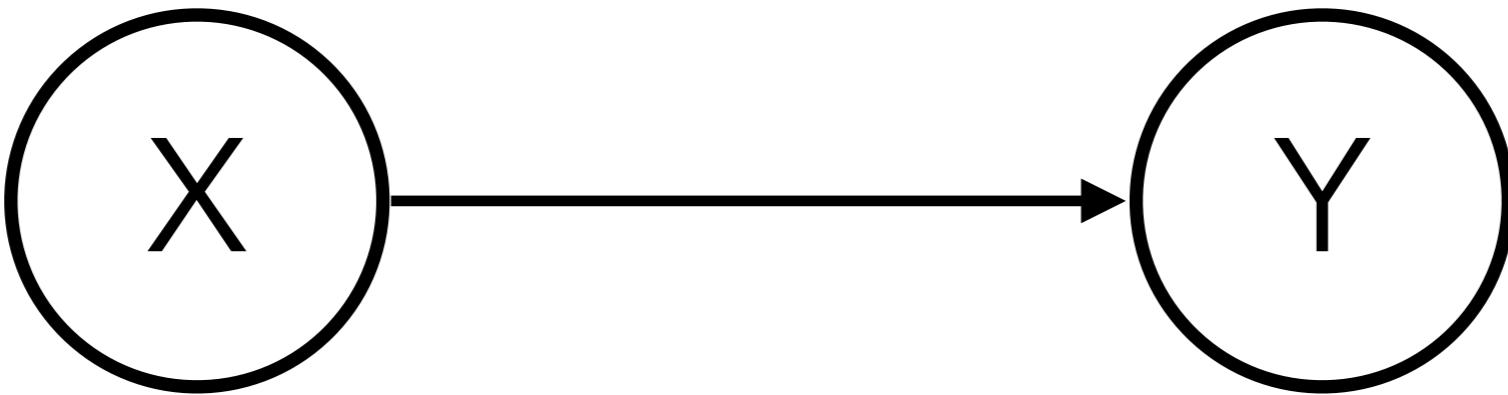
# **Observation, intervention, counterfactual**



Level	Concept	Expression	Activity	Question	Example
I	Observation/ Prediction	$p(y x)$	Seeing	How does $x$ change my belief in $y$ ?	Would the grass be wet if we <i>found</i> the sprinkler off?



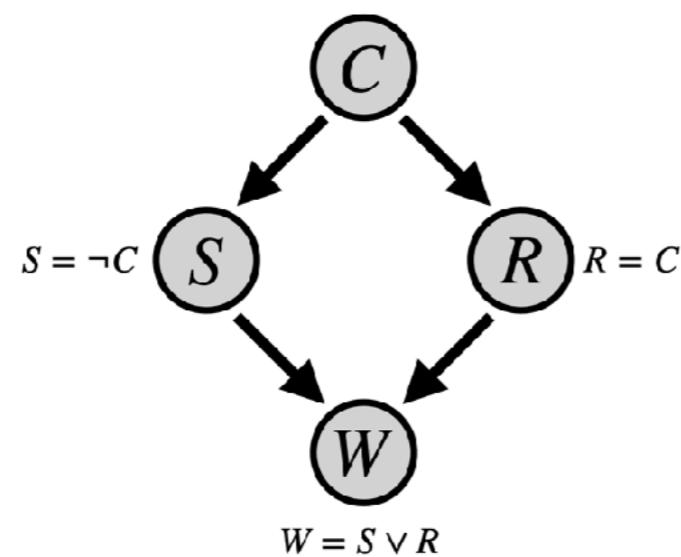
Level	Concept	Expression	Activity	Question	Example
I	Observation/ Prediction	$p(y x)$	Seeing	How does $x$ change my belief in $y$ ?	Would the grass be wet if we <i>found</i> the sprinkler off?
II	Intervention/ Hypothetical	$p(y \text{do}(x))$	Doing	Would $y$ happen if I did $x$ ?	Would the grass be wet if <i>made sure</i> that the sprinkler was off?



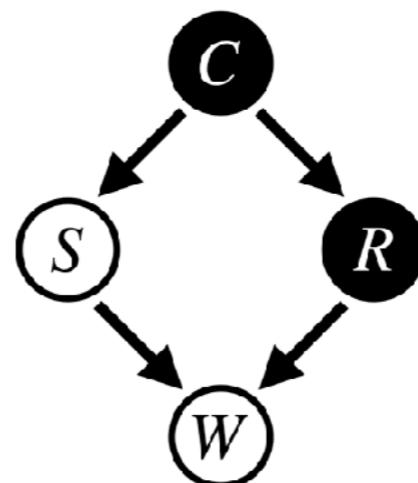
Level	Concept	Expression	Activity	Question	Example
I	Observation/ Prediction	$p(y x)$	Seeing	How does $x$ change my belief in $y$ ?	Would the grass be wet if we <i>found</i> the sprinkler off?
II	Intervention/ Hypothetical	$p(y \text{do}(x))$	Doing	Would $y$ happen if I did $x$ ?	Would the grass be wet if <i>made sure</i> that the sprinkler was off?
III	Counterfactual	$p(y_x x', y')$	Explaining	Would $y$ have happened instead of $y'$ , if I had done $x$ instead of $x'$ ?	Would the grass have been wet if we <i>had made sure</i> that the sprinkler was off, given that the grass is wet and the sprinkler on?

## A Causal structure

$$p(C = \text{true}) = 0.5$$



## B What actually happened



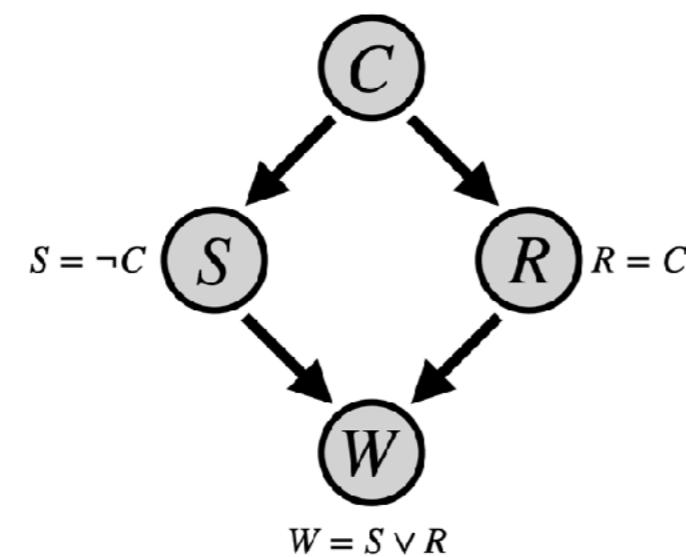
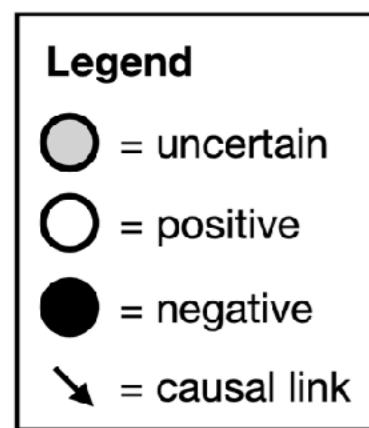
There were no **clouds**,  
it didn't **rain**, the  
**sprinkler** was **on**, and  
the grass was **wet**.

Did the sprinkler cause  
the grass to be wet?

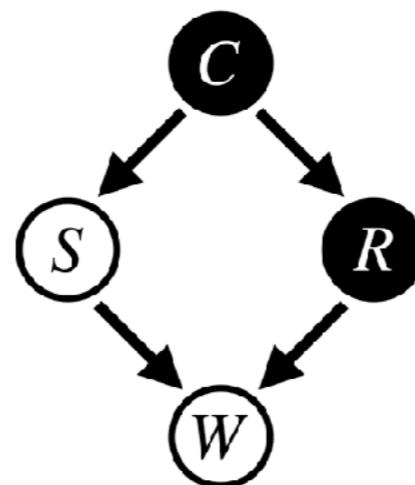
$$p(s \rightarrow w) = ?$$

## A Causal structure

$$p(C = \text{true}) = 0.5$$



## B What actually happened

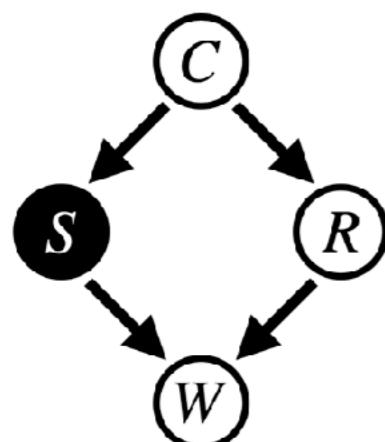


There were no **clouds**, it didn't **rain**, the **sprinkler** was on, and the grass was **wet**.

Did the sprinkler cause the grass to be wet?

$$p(s \rightarrow w) = ?$$

## C Observation (Level I)

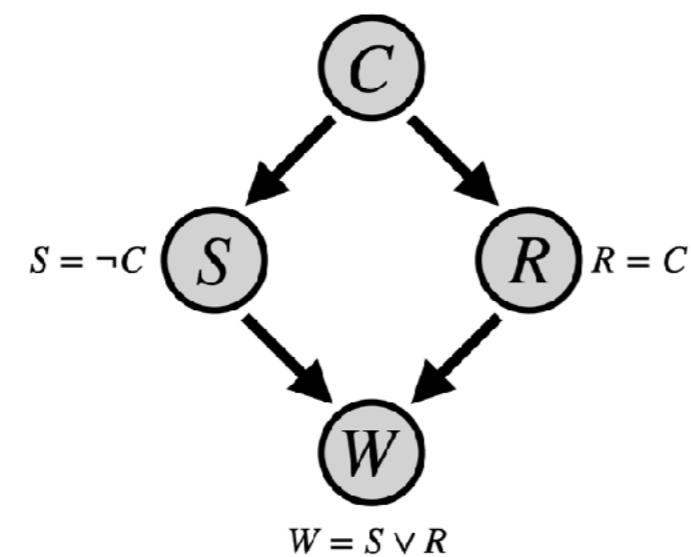
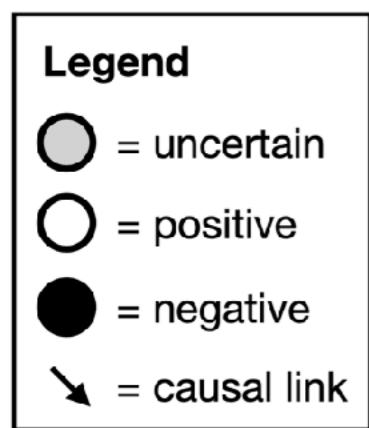


Is the grass dry when the sprinkler is off?

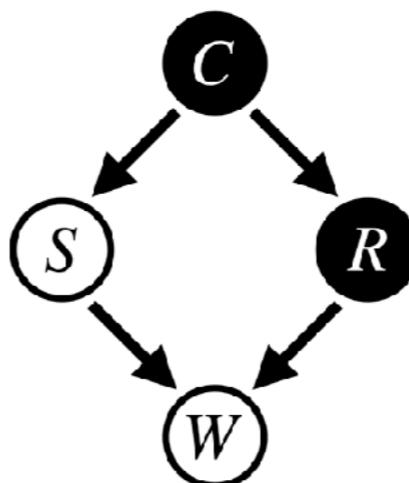
$$p(w' | s') = 0$$

## A Causal structure

$$p(C = \text{true}) = 0.5$$



## B What actually happened

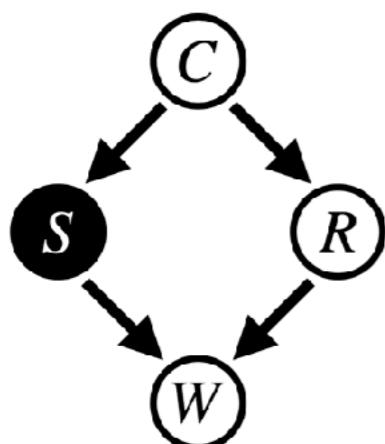


There were no **clouds**, it didn't **rain**, the **sprinkler** was **on**, and the grass was **wet**.

Did the sprinkler cause the grass to be wet?

$$p(s \rightarrow w) = ?$$

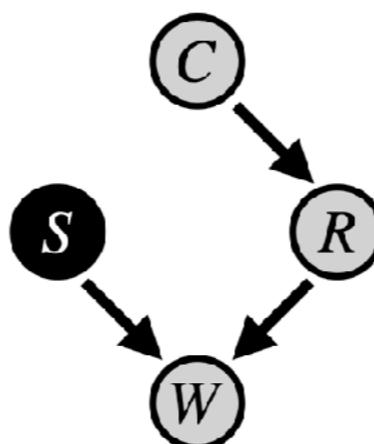
## C Observation (Level I)



Is the grass dry when the sprinkler is off?

$$p(w' | s') = 0$$

## D Intervention (Level II)

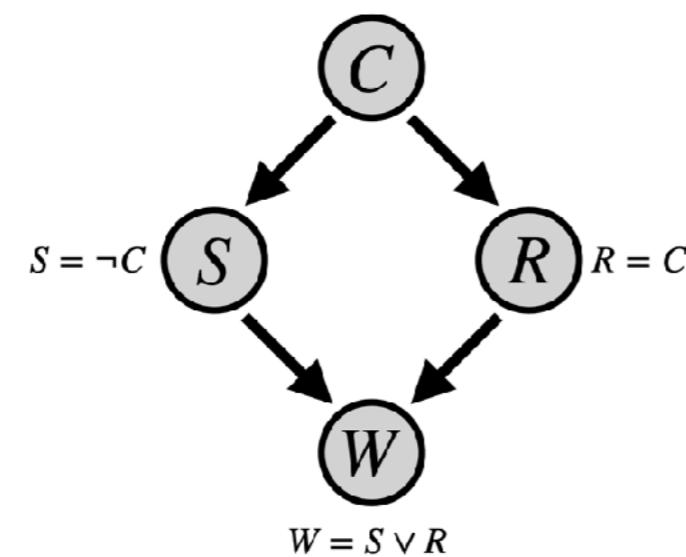
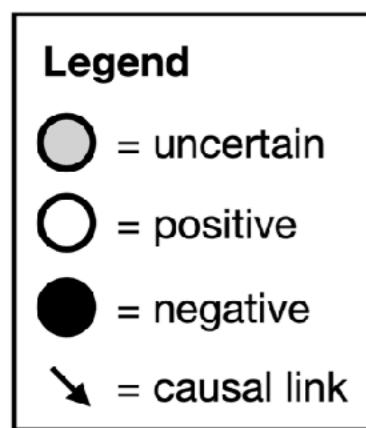


Would the grass be dry if the sprinkler was off?

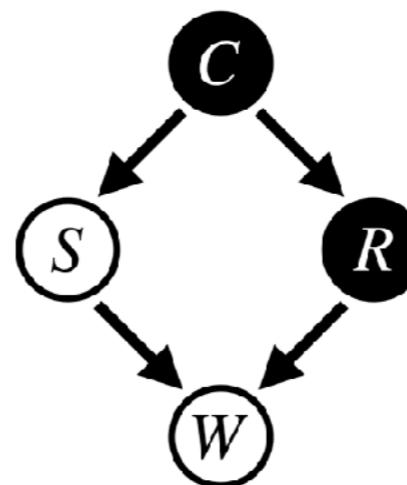
$$p(w' | \text{do}(s')) = 0.5$$

## A Causal structure

$$p(C = \text{true}) = 0.5$$



## B What actually happened

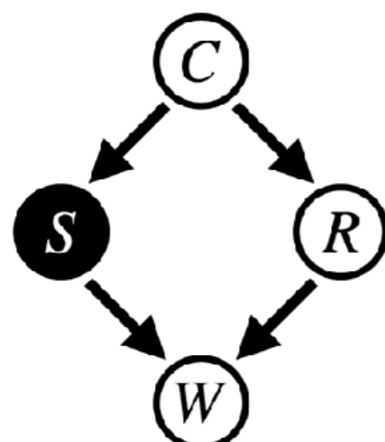


There were no clouds, it didn't rain, the sprinkler was on, and the grass was wet.

Did the sprinkler cause the grass to be wet?

$$p(s \rightarrow w) = ?$$

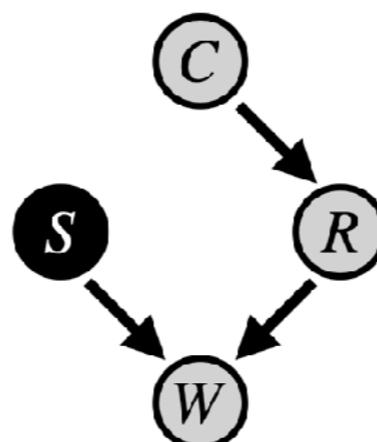
## C Observation (Level I)



Is the grass dry when the sprinkler is off?

$$p(w' | s') = 0$$

## D Intervention (Level II)

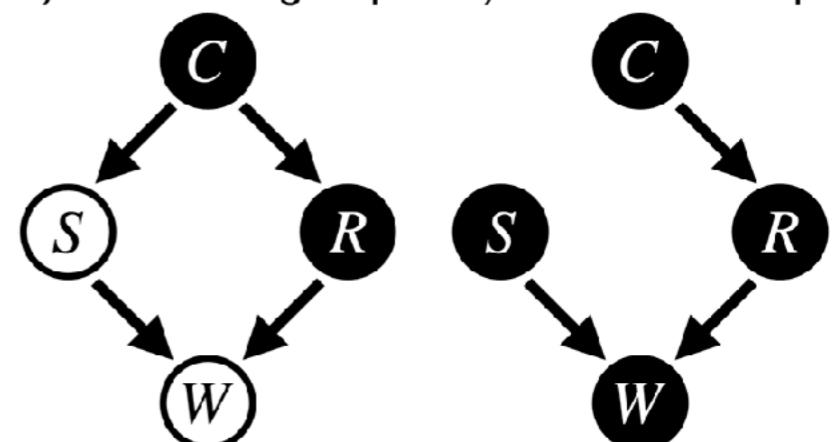


Would the grass be dry if the sprinkler was off?

$$p(w' | \text{do}(s')) = 0.5$$

## E Counterfactual (Level III)

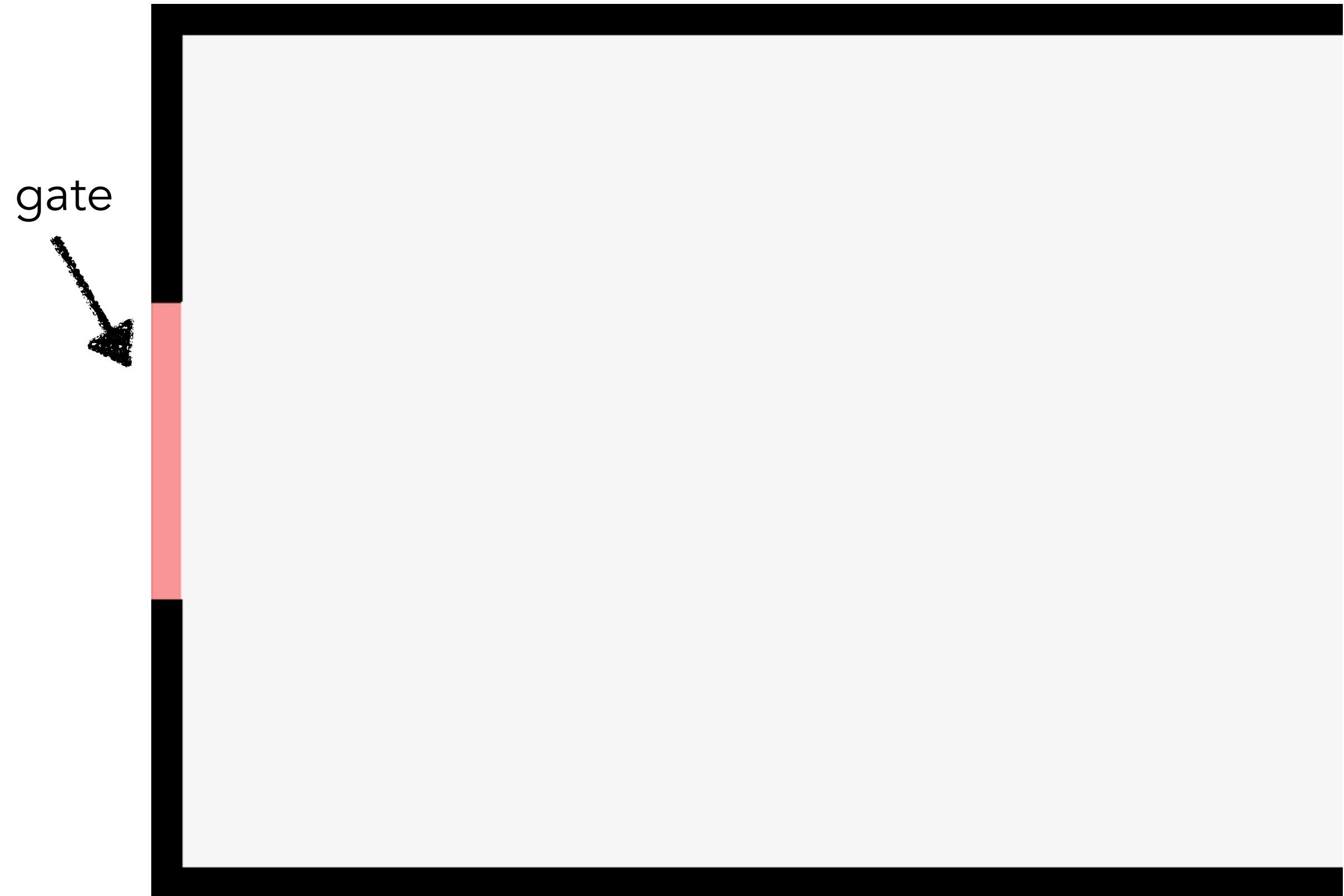
- 1) Conditioning step
- 2) Intervention step



Would the grass have been dry if the sprinkler had been off?

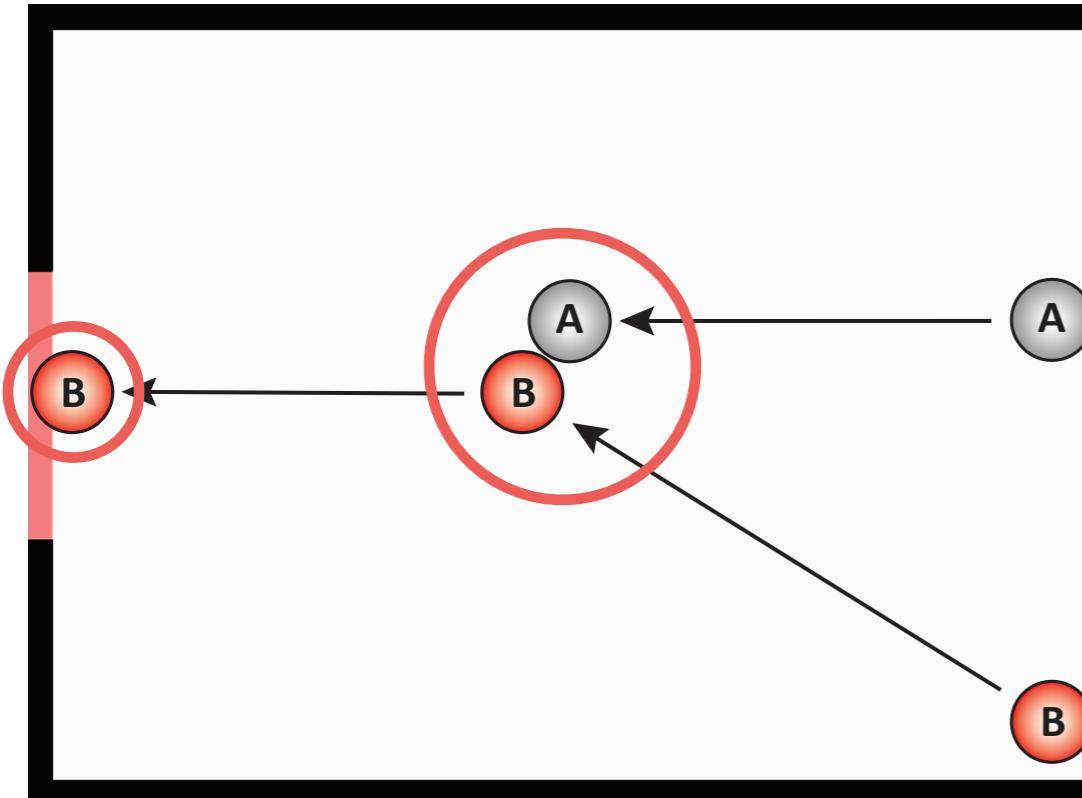
$$p(w'_{s'} | c', s, r', w) = 1$$

Did A cause B to go through the gate?



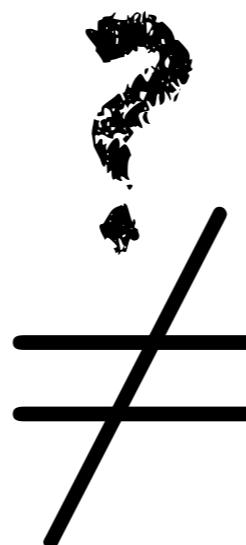
# Counterfactual Simulation Model

What happened?

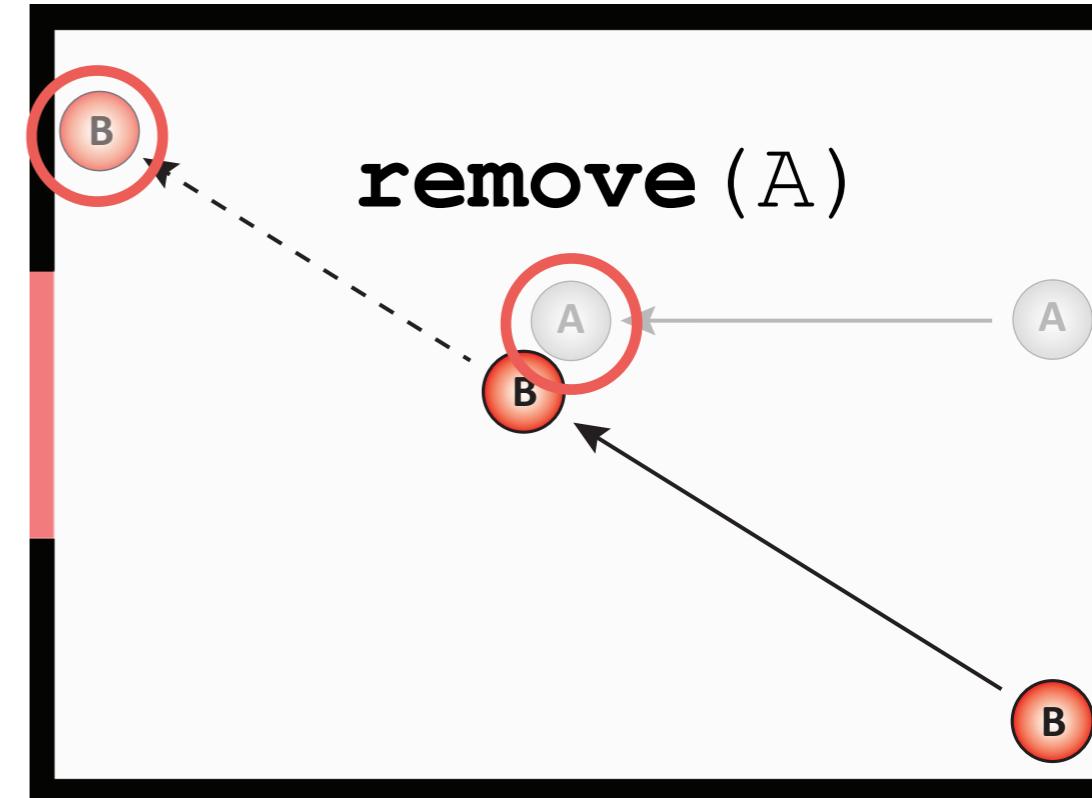


**Actual situation**

 went through the gate



What would have happened?



**Counterfactual situation**

 would have missed the gate

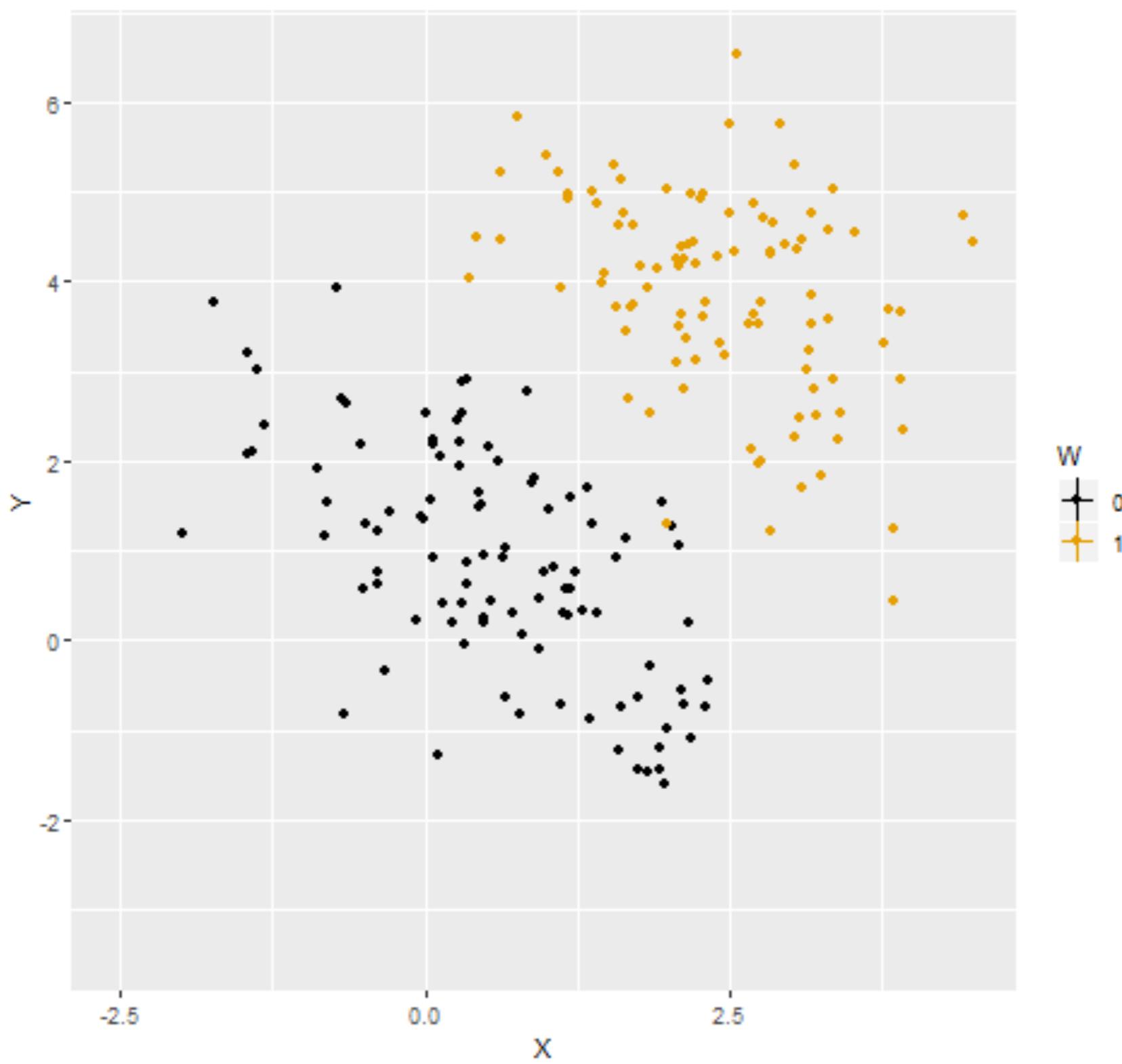
Did A prevent B from go through the gate?

1/2 speed

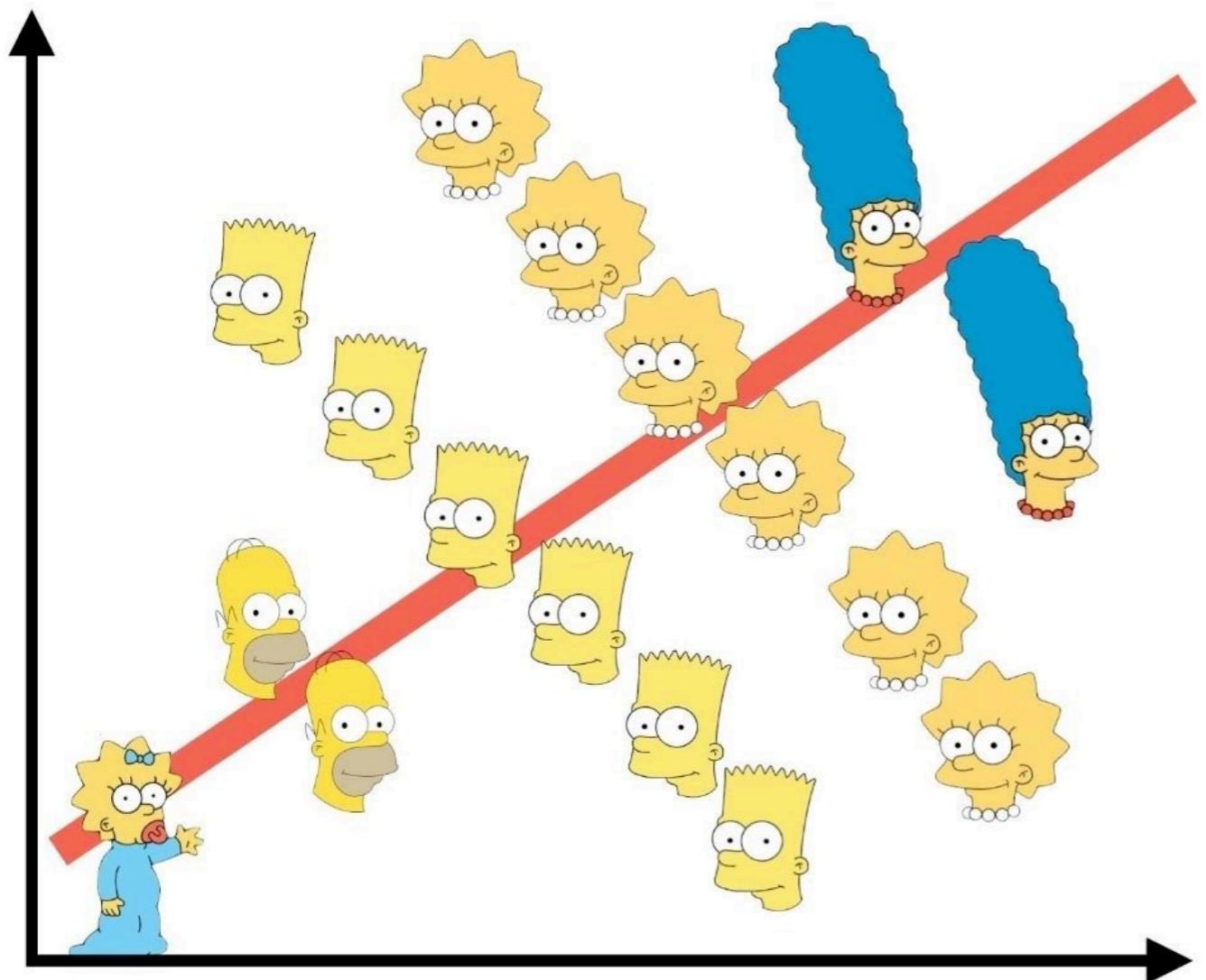
# **Controlling for variables**

The Relationship between Y and X, Controlling for a Binary Variable W

1. Start with raw data. Correlation between X and Y: 0.319



# Simpson's paradox

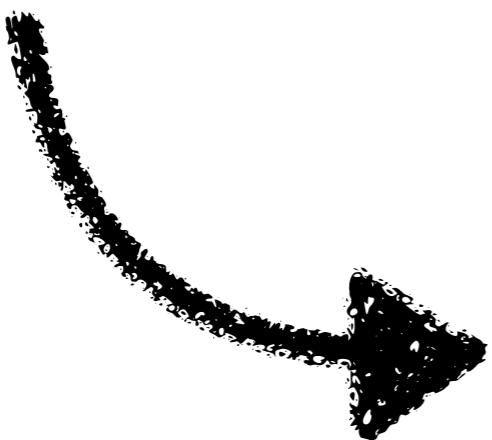


- when the relationship between two variables changes strongly after conditioning on another variable
- interesting real world cases
- **google it!**

# What does controlling for variables mean?

we are not actually "**controlling**" the variable

instead, we are taking the variable into consideration when making predictions



**the hope is that we get a better estimate of the parameter that we are interested in by taking into account other factors**

# **Patterns of inference**

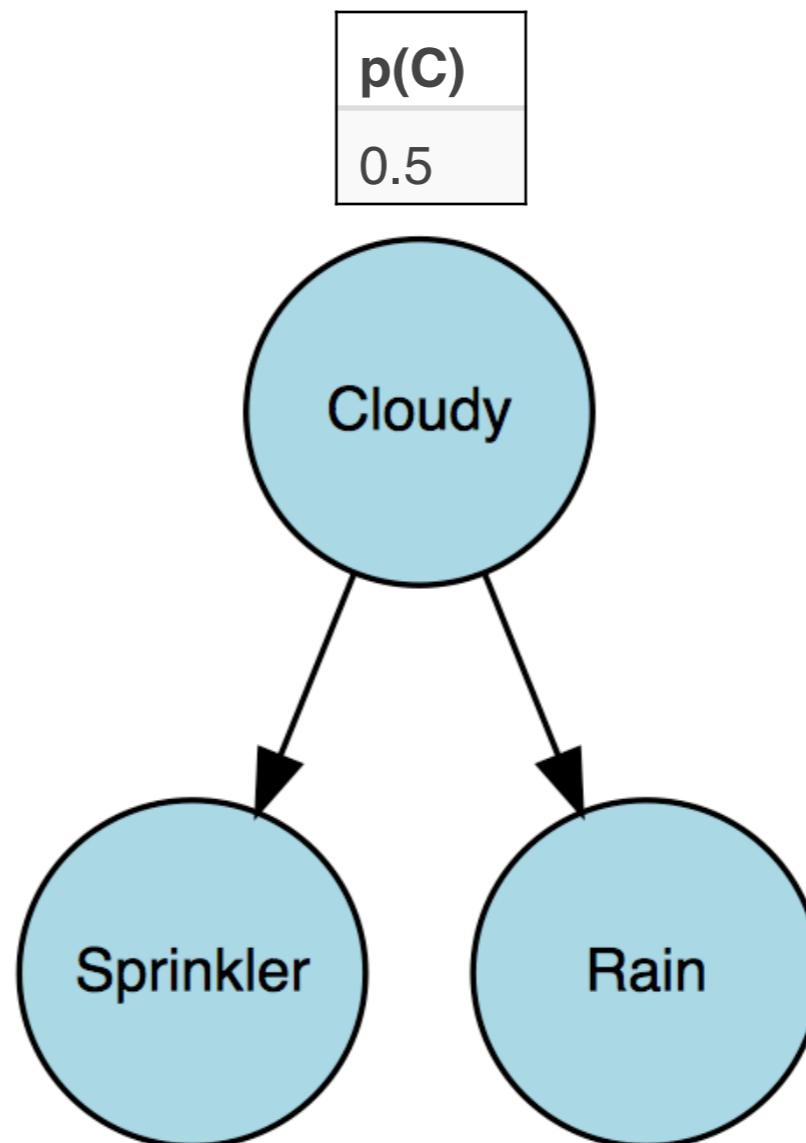
# Patterns of inference: Common cause

$$p(S | R) = p(S)$$

or

$$p(S | R) \neq p(S)$$

?



C	p(S)
F	0.5
T	0.1

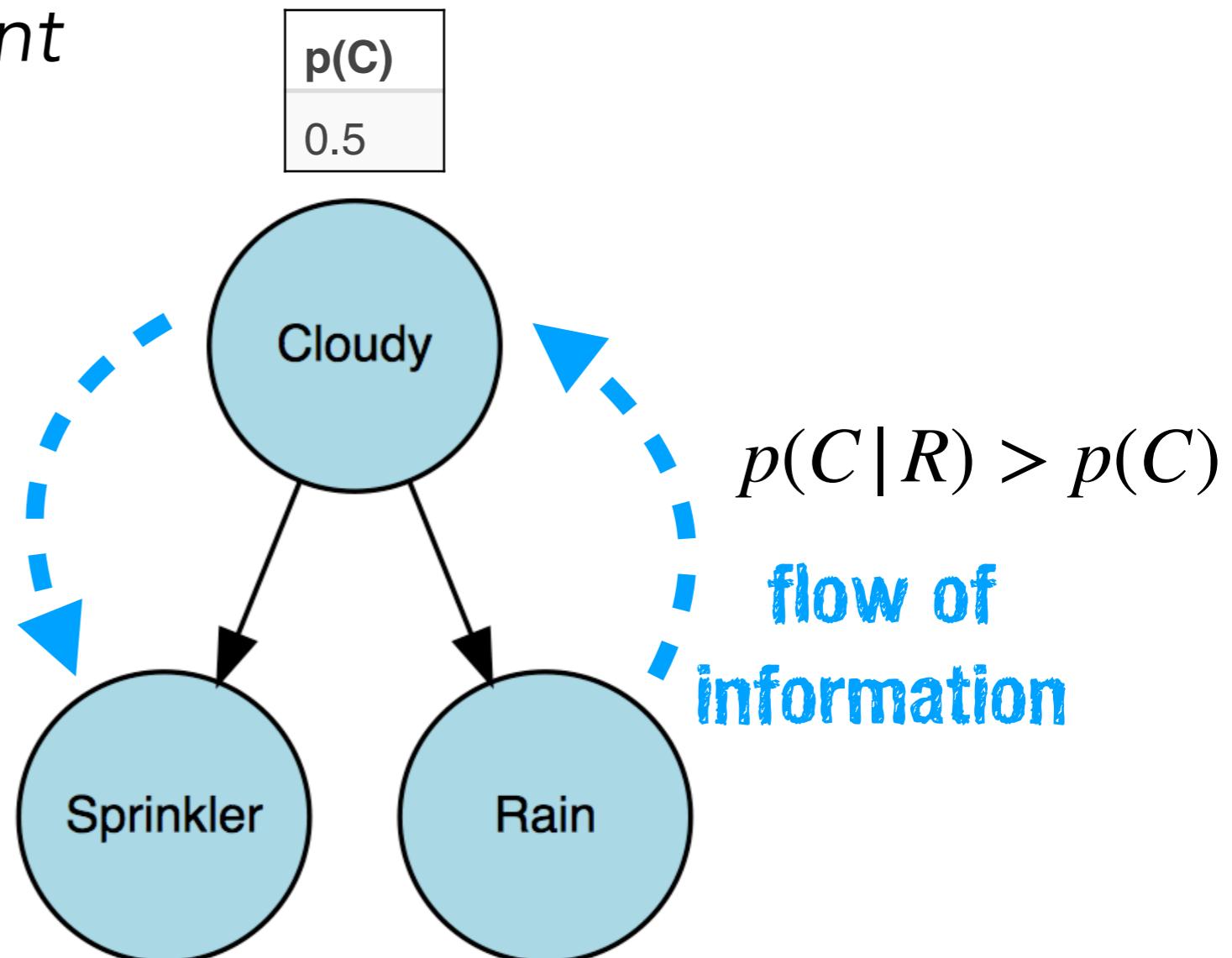
C	p(R)
F	0
T	0.3

# Patterns of inference: Common cause

- effects of a common cause are *unconditionally dependent*

$$p(S|R) \neq p(S)$$

$$p(S|C) < p(S)$$



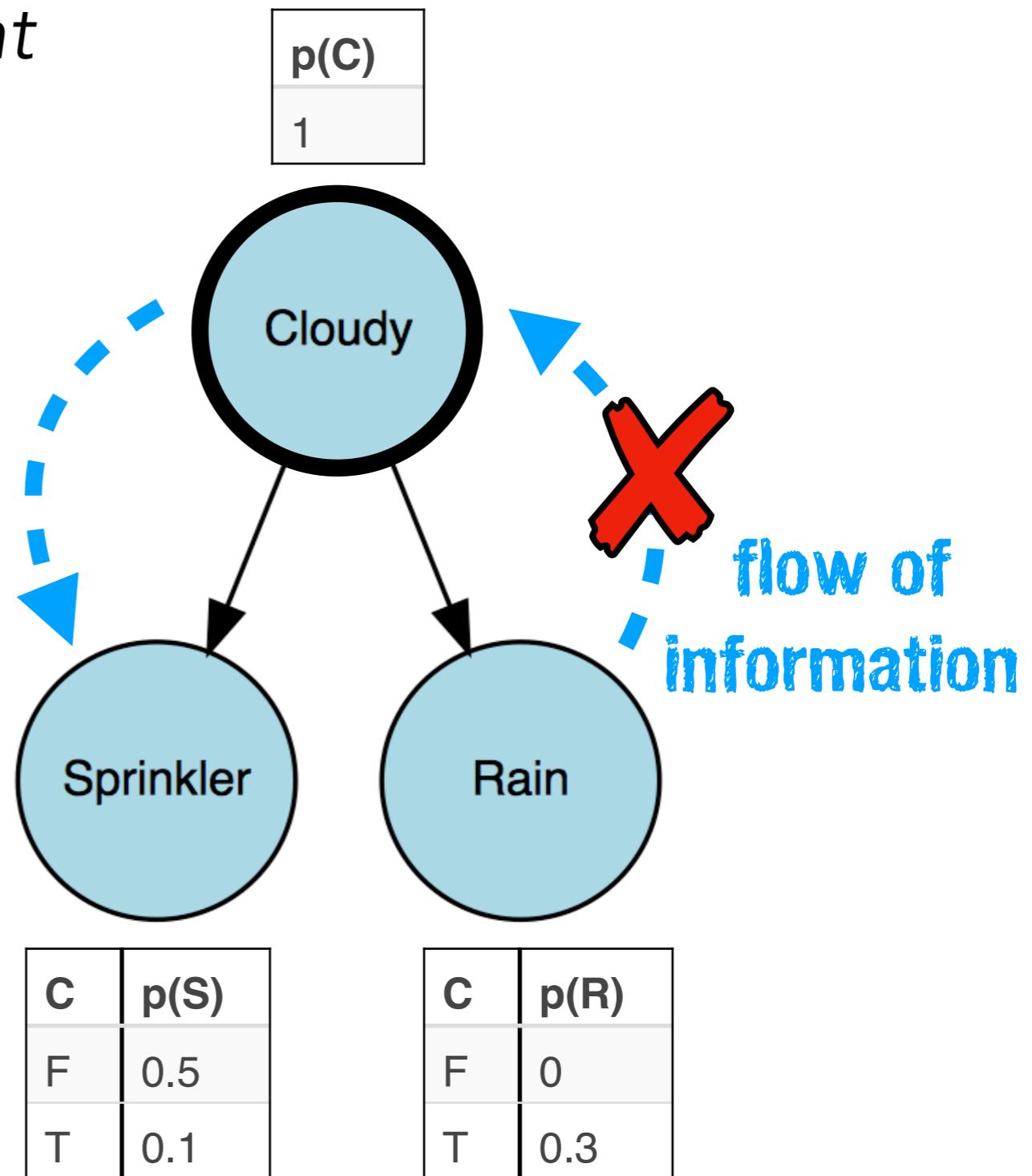
C	$p(S)$
F	0.5
T	0.1

C	$p(R)$
F	0
T	0.3

# Patterns of inference: Common cause

- effects of a common cause are *conditionally independent given the cause*

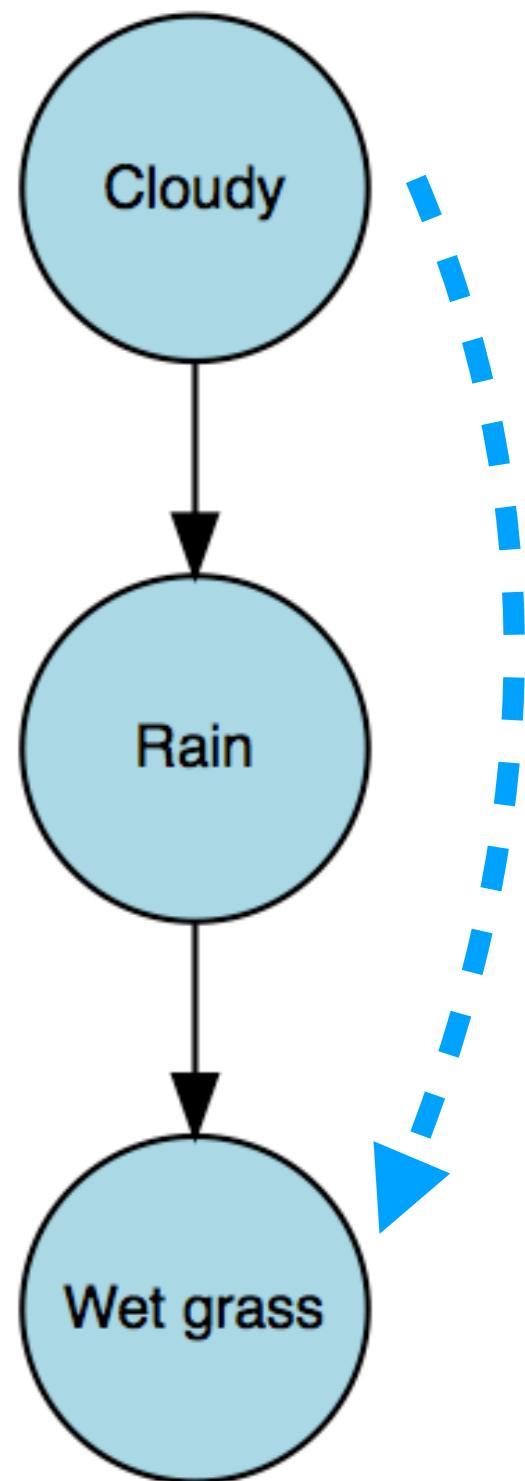
$$p(S | R, C) = p(S | C)$$



# Patterns of inference: Causal chain

- cause and effect in a causal chain are *unconditionally dependent*

$$p(W | C) \neq p(W)$$

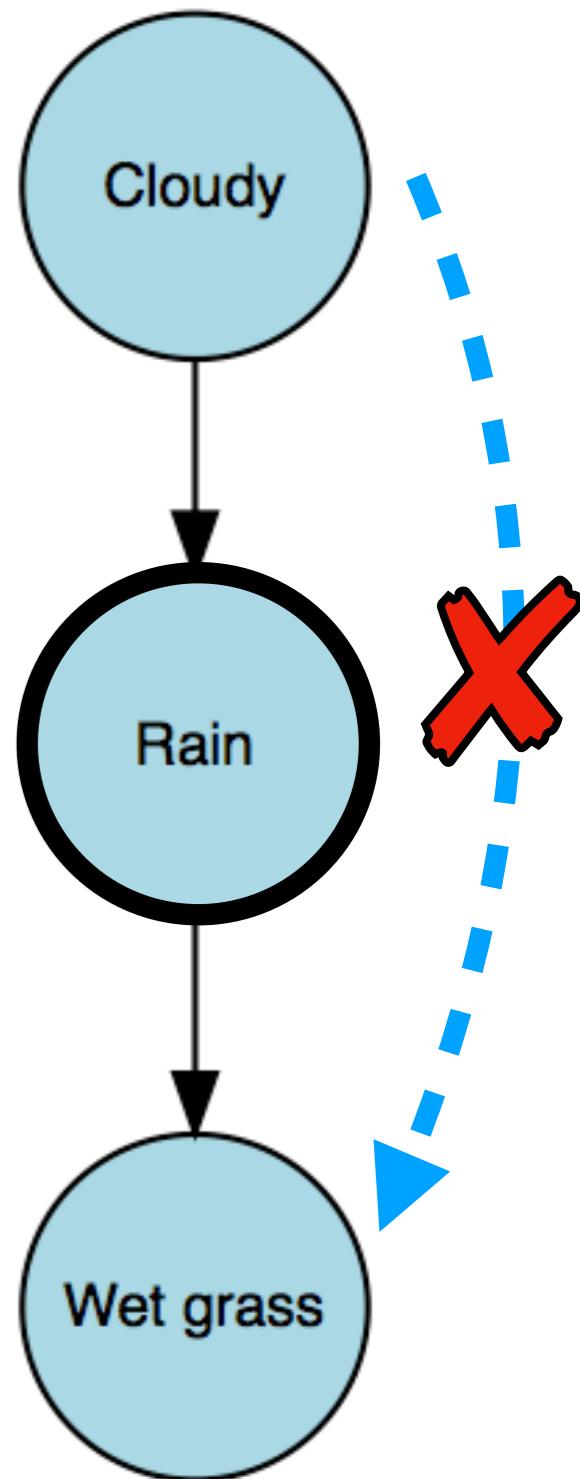


# Patterns of inference: Causal chain

- cause and effect in a causal chain are *conditionally independent*

$$p(W | C, R) = p(W | R)$$

screening off

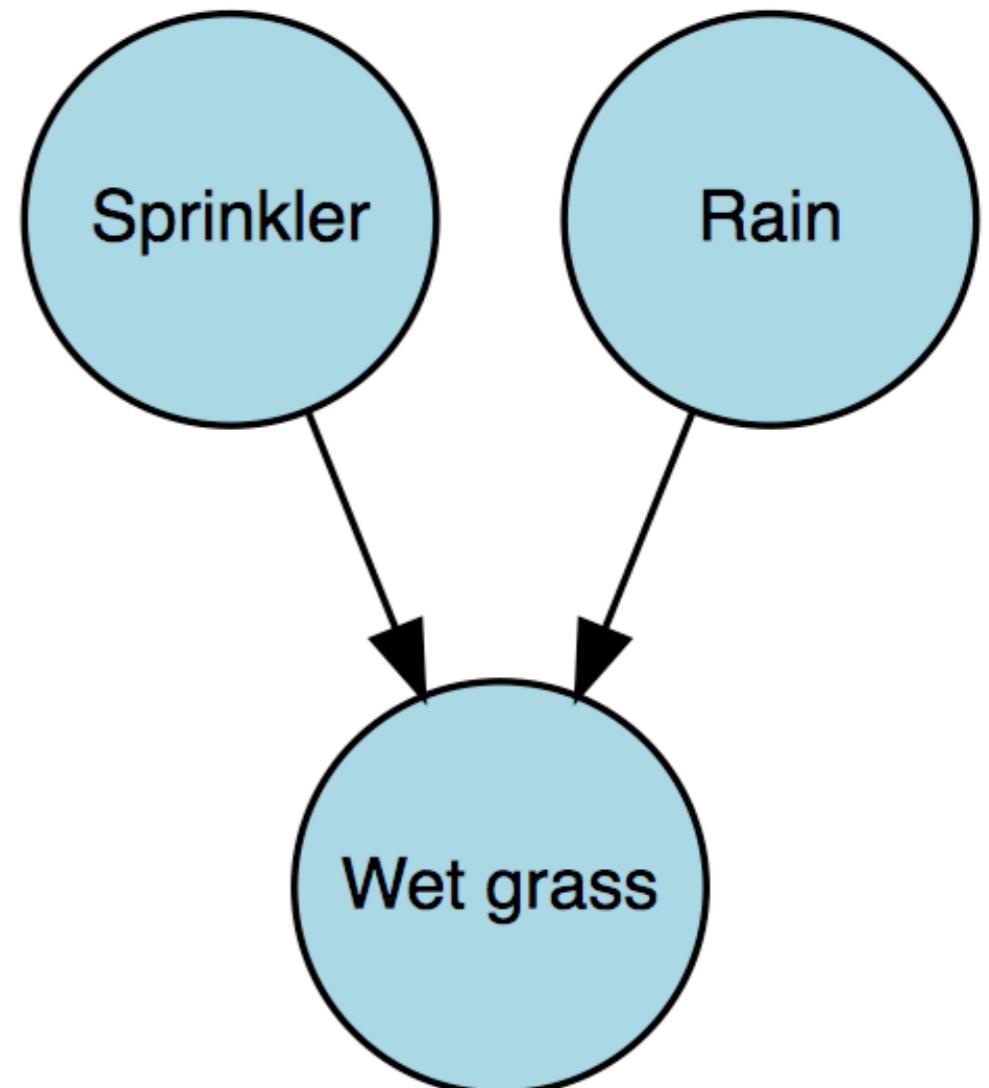


# Patterns of inference: **Common effect**

- two causes of a common effect are *unconditionally independent*

$$p(S | R) = p(S)$$

(e.g. Sprinkler is set by a timer)

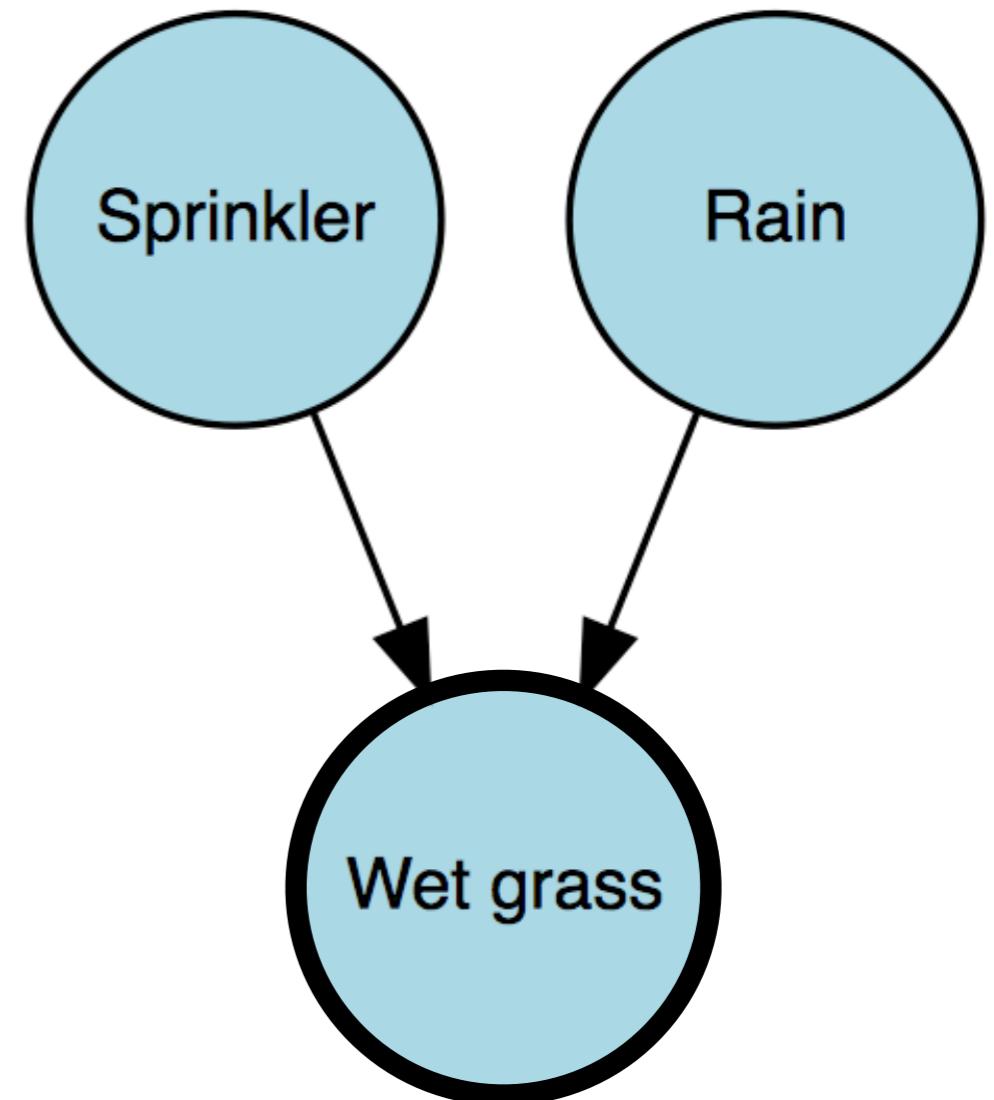


# Patterns of inference: Common effect

- two causes of a common effect are *conditionally dependent given the effect*

$$p(S | R, W) \neq p(S | W)$$

**explaining away**



- intuitively: both causes compete to explain the effect

**Note:** The pattern of inference depends on the structural form which captures how Sprinkler and Rain jointly affect Wet grass. Explaining away holds for the commonly used noisy-or integration function.

# **Should I control?**

# When should I control for variables?

recent advances in graphical models have produced a way to help distinguish good from bad controls

 **d-separation**  
**directional**

decide from a causal graph whether a set of variables  $X$  is independent of another set  $Y$ , given a third set  $Z$

**Goal:** we want a precise (and unbiased) estimate of the predictive relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$

 **we want to block all other paths from  $X$  to  $Y$**

# When should I control for variables?

## How can I tell whether two variables are independent?

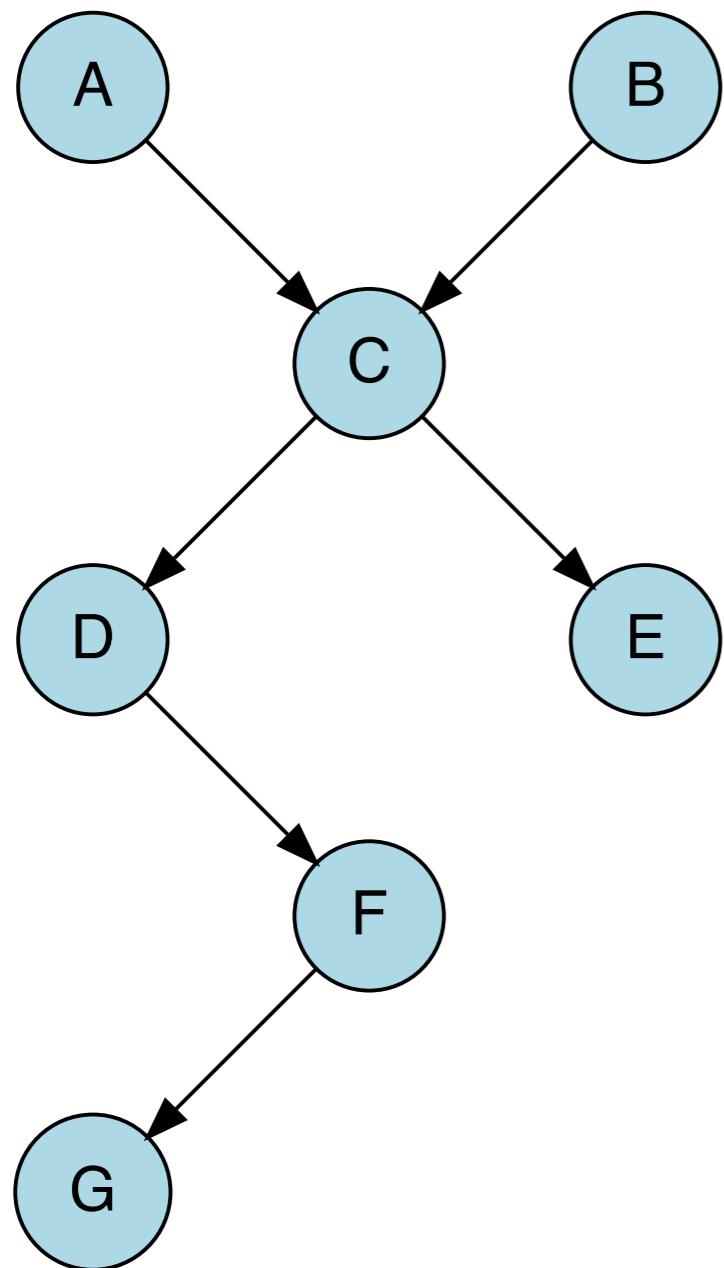
### Recipe for independence

1. Draw the ancestral graph
  2. "Moralize" the graph by "marrying" the parents
  3. "Disorient" the graph by replacing arrows with edges
  4. Delete the givens and their edges
  5. Read the answer off the graph
- if variables are **disconnected** they are independent  
- if variables are connected (have a path between them)  
they are not guaranteed to be independent

# When should I control for variables?

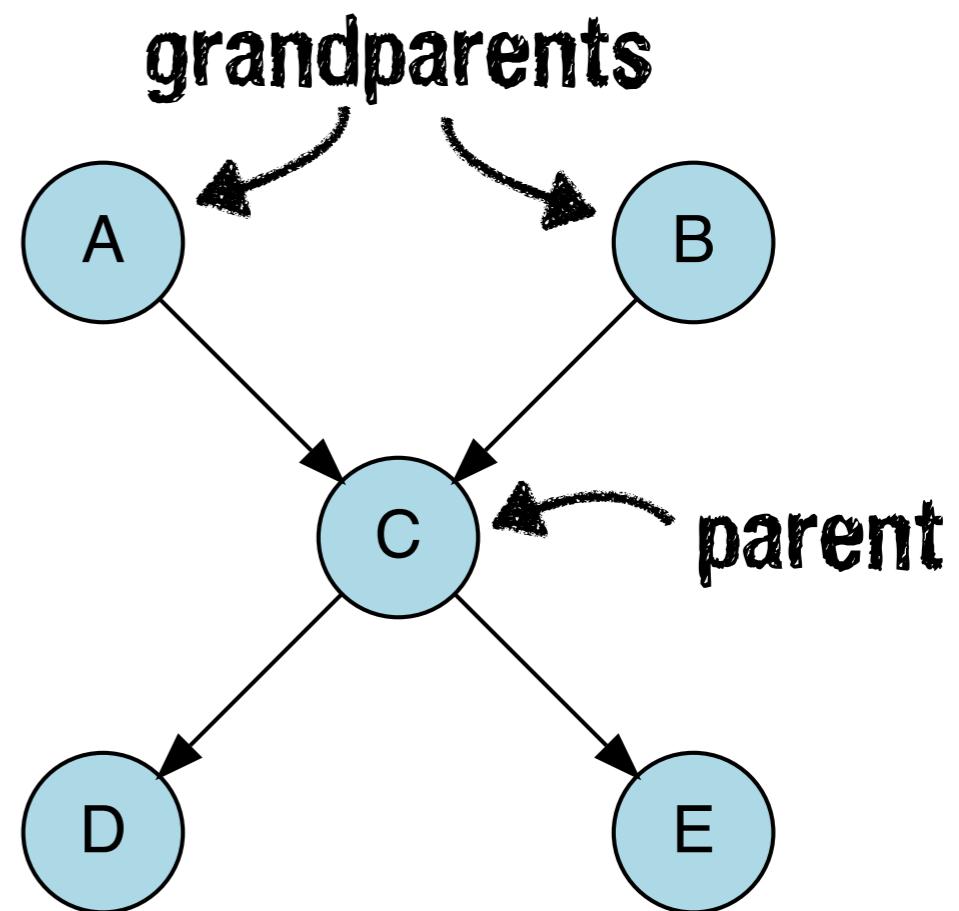
**Are D and E independent?**

$$p(D | E) = p(D) ?$$



## 1. Draw the ancestral graph

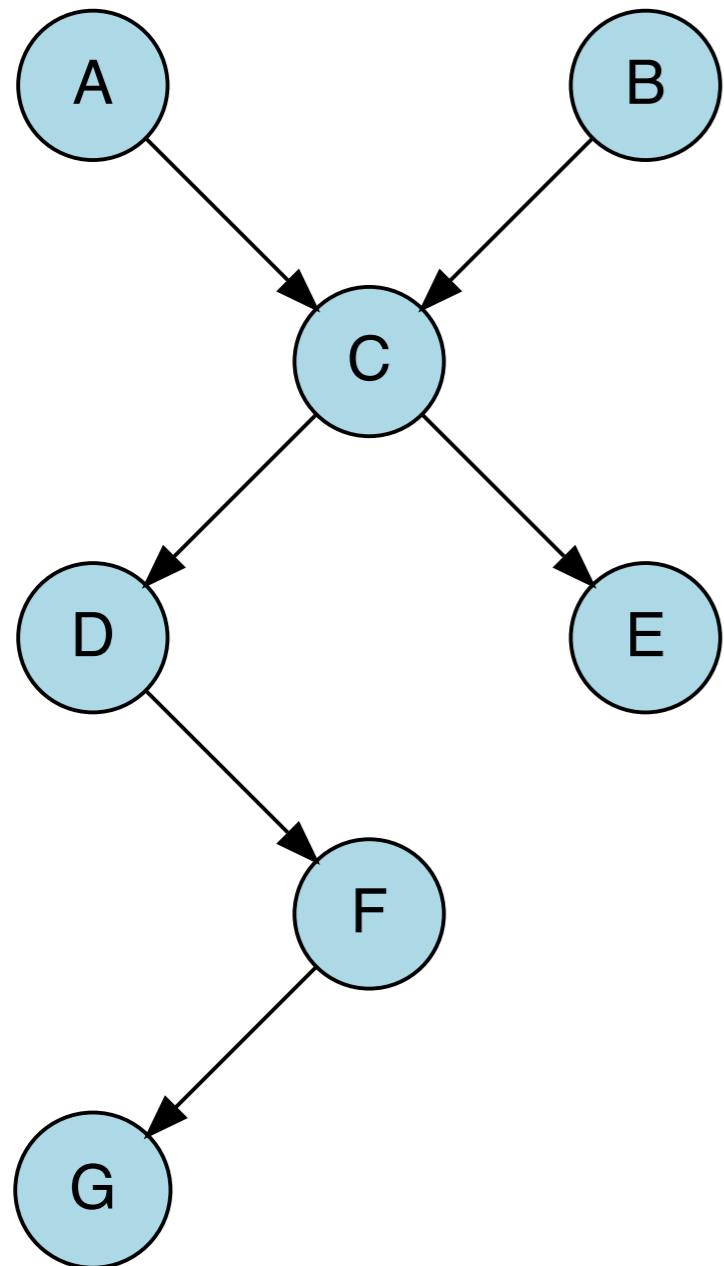
Construct the "ancestral graph" of all variables mentioned in the probability expression. This is a reduced version of the original net, consisting only of the variables mentioned and all of their ancestors (parents, parents' parents, etc.)



# When should I control for variables?

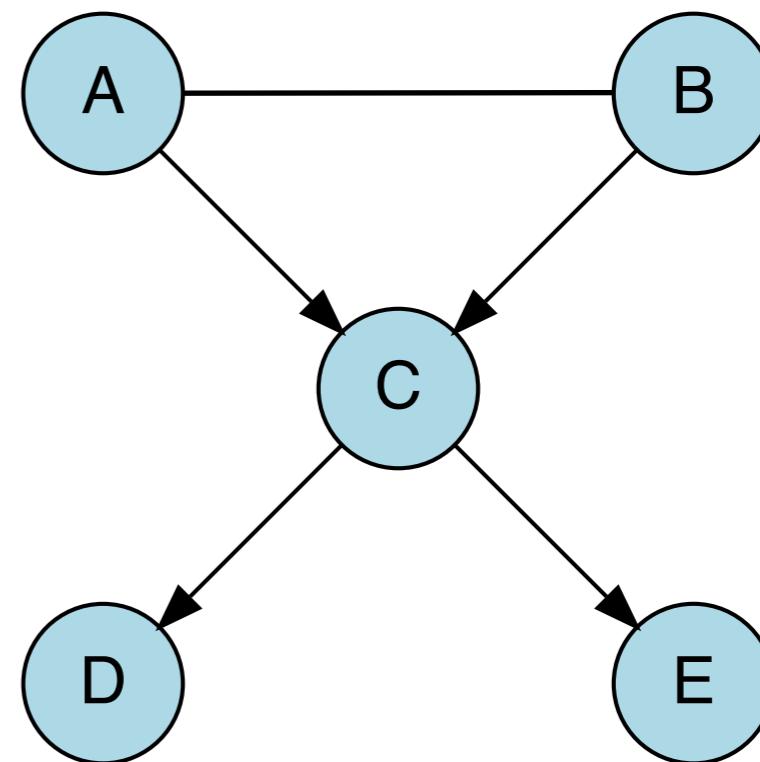
**Are D and E independent?**

$$p(D | E) = p(D) ?$$



**2. "Moralize" the graph**  
**let's get married!**

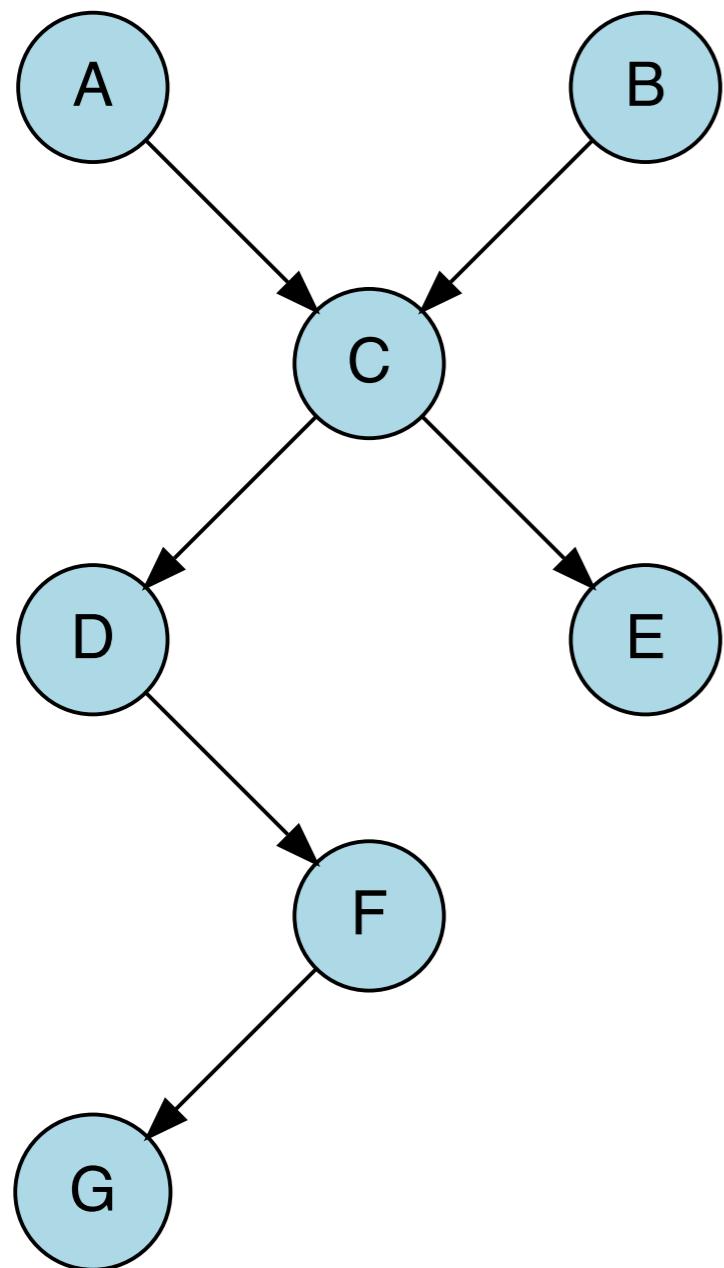
For each pair of variables with a common child, draw an undirected edge (line) between them. (If a variable has more than two parents, draw lines between every pair of parents.)



# When should I control for variables?

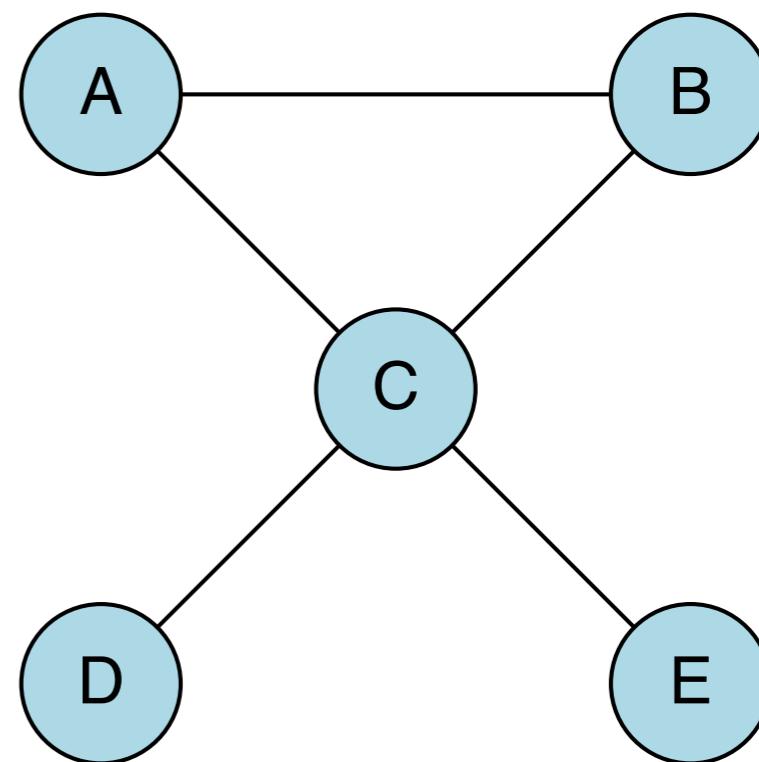
**Are D and E independent?**

$$p(D | E) = p(D) ?$$



## 3. "Disorient" the graph

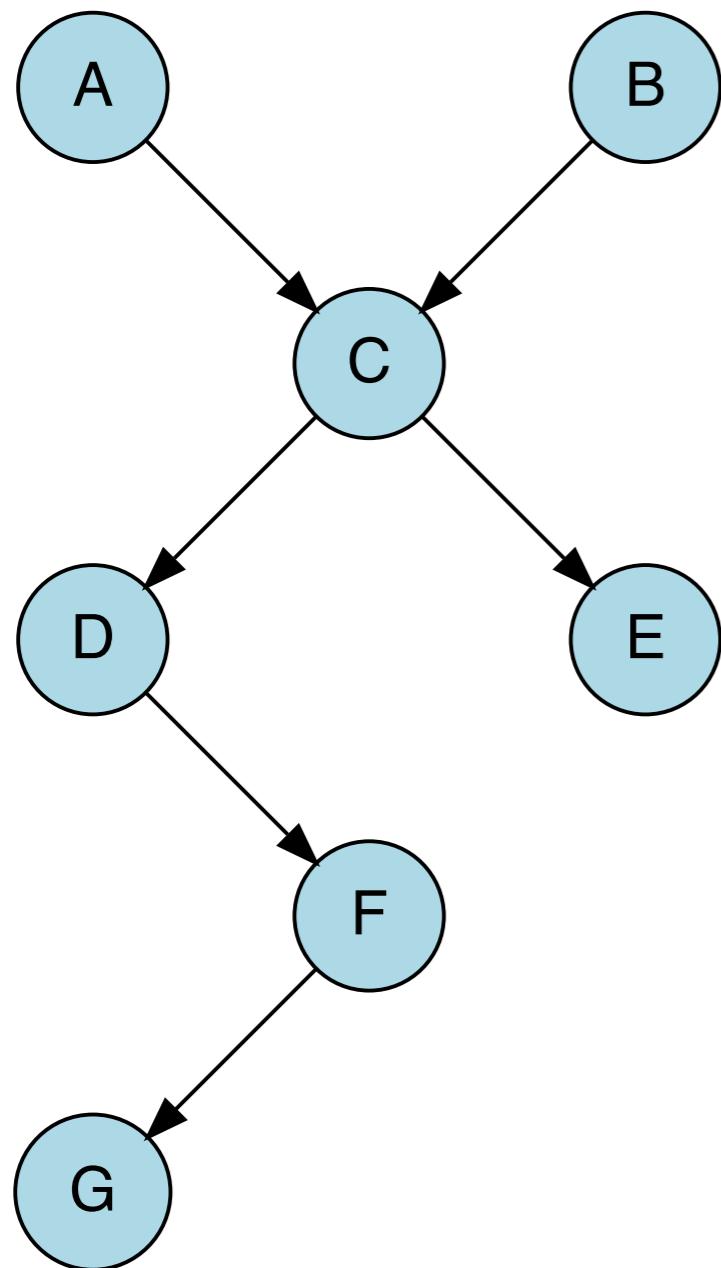
Replace arrows with lines



# When should I control for variables?

**Are D and E independent?**

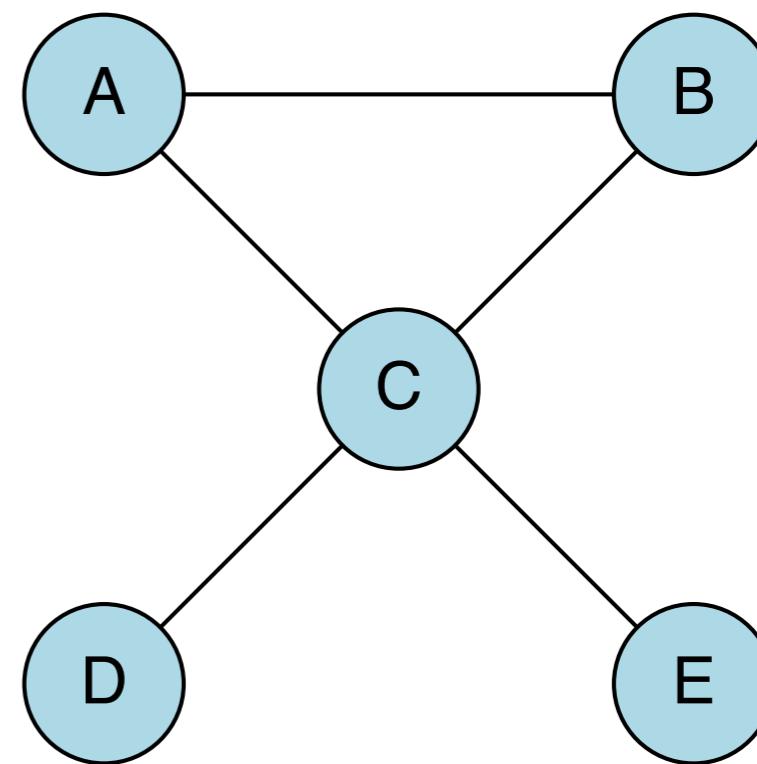
$$p(D | E) = p(D) ?$$



## 4. Delete the givens

Remove the variables that we condition on, as well as their edges

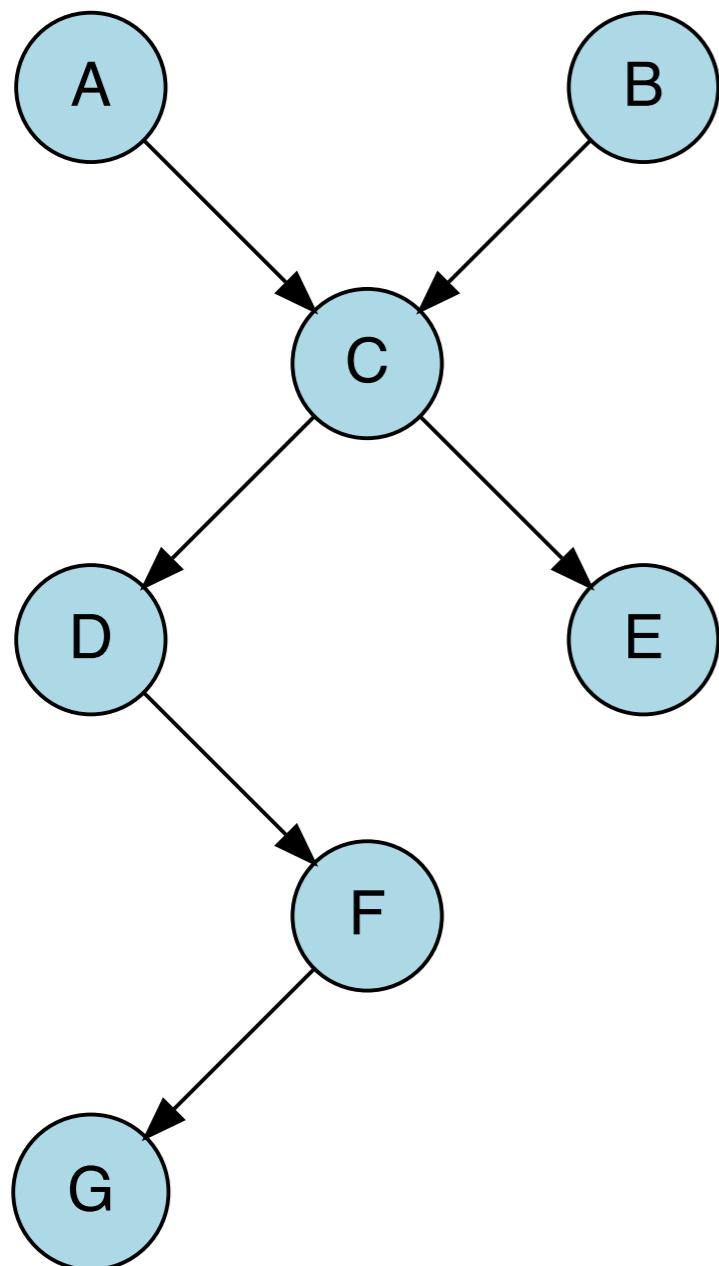
**we didn't condition on anything,  
so there is nothing to delete**



# When should I control for variables?

**Are D and E independent?**

$$p(D | E) = p(D) ?$$



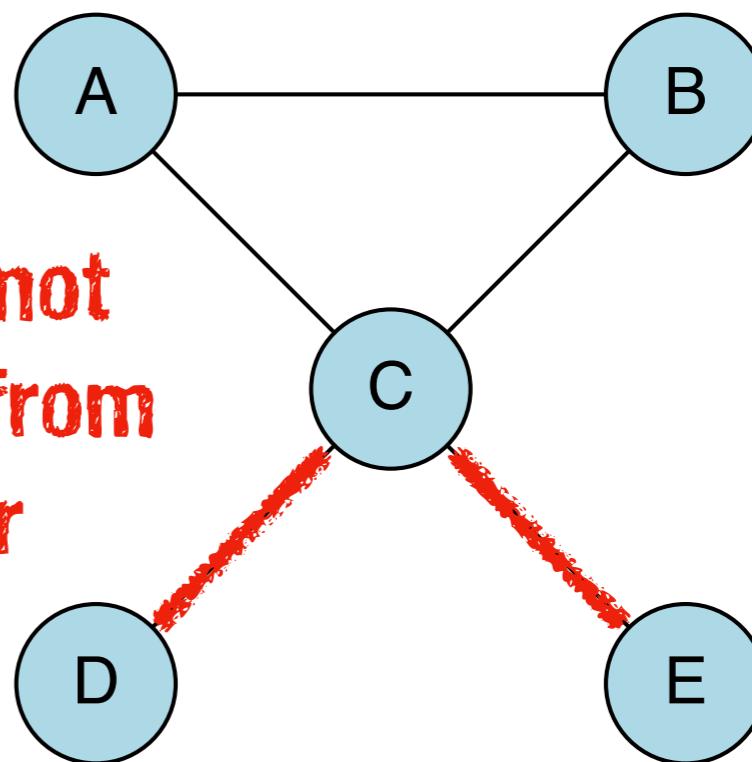
**5. Read answer off the graph**

- if variables are **disconnected** they are independent
- if variables are connected (have a path between them) they are not guaranteed to be independent

**D and E are not independent from each other**



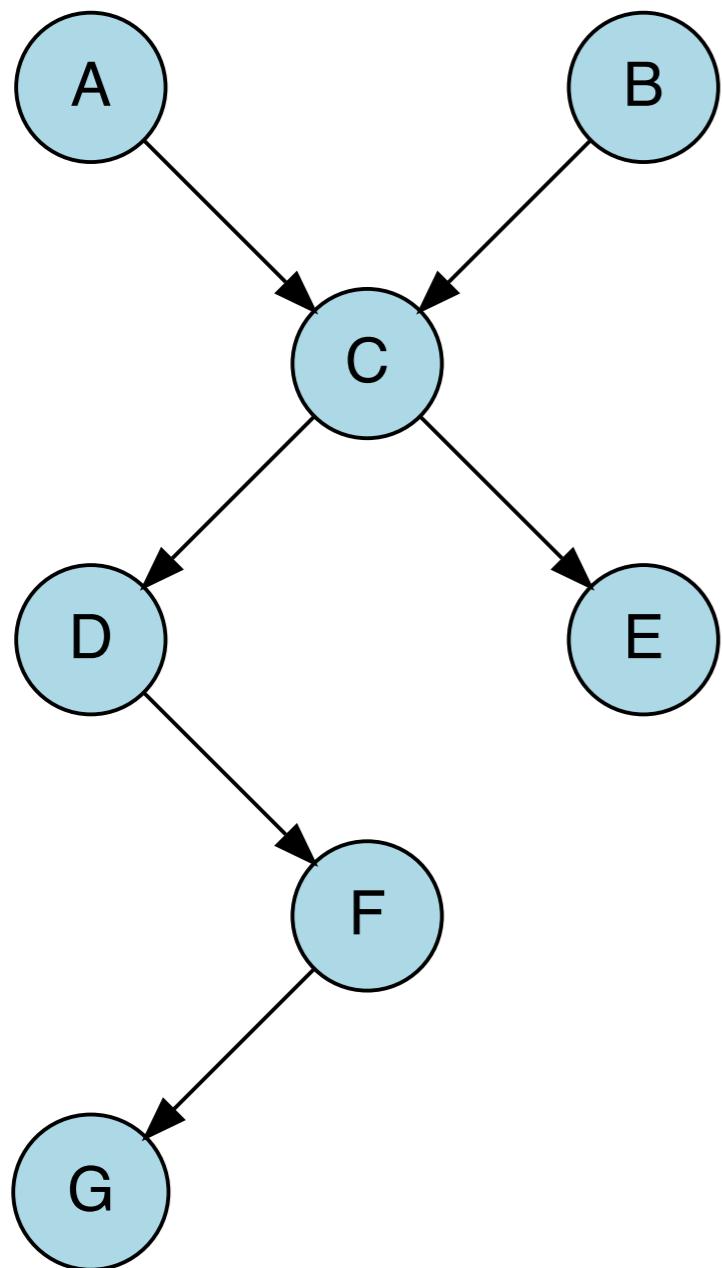
**they are connected via at least one path**



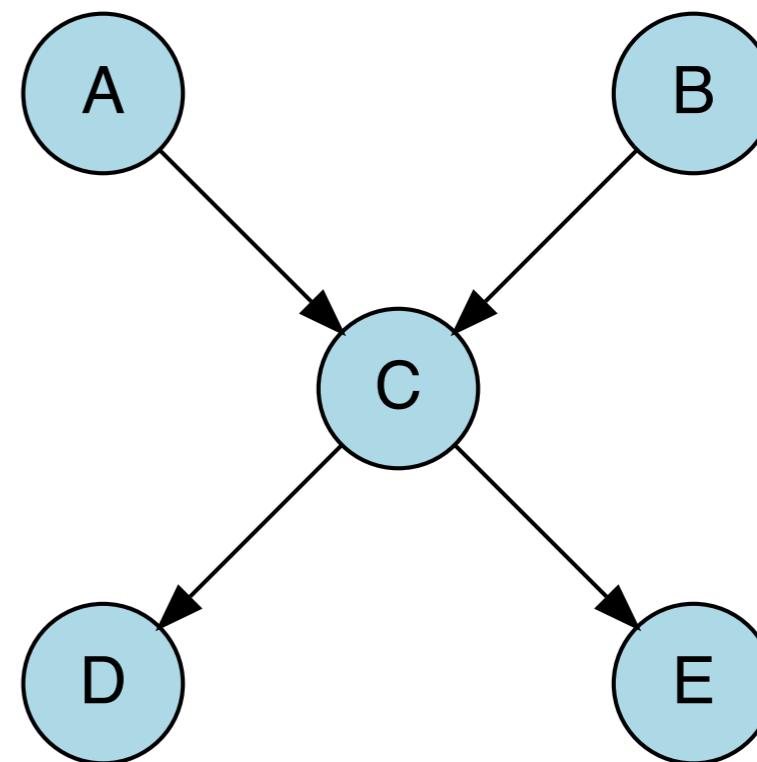
# When should I control for variables?

**Are D and E independent, given C?** 1. Draw the ancestral graph

$$p(D | E, C) = p(D | C) ?$$



Construct the "ancestral graph" of all variables mentioned in the probability expression. This is a reduced version of the original net, consisting only of the variables mentioned and all of their ancestors (parents, parents' parents, etc.)

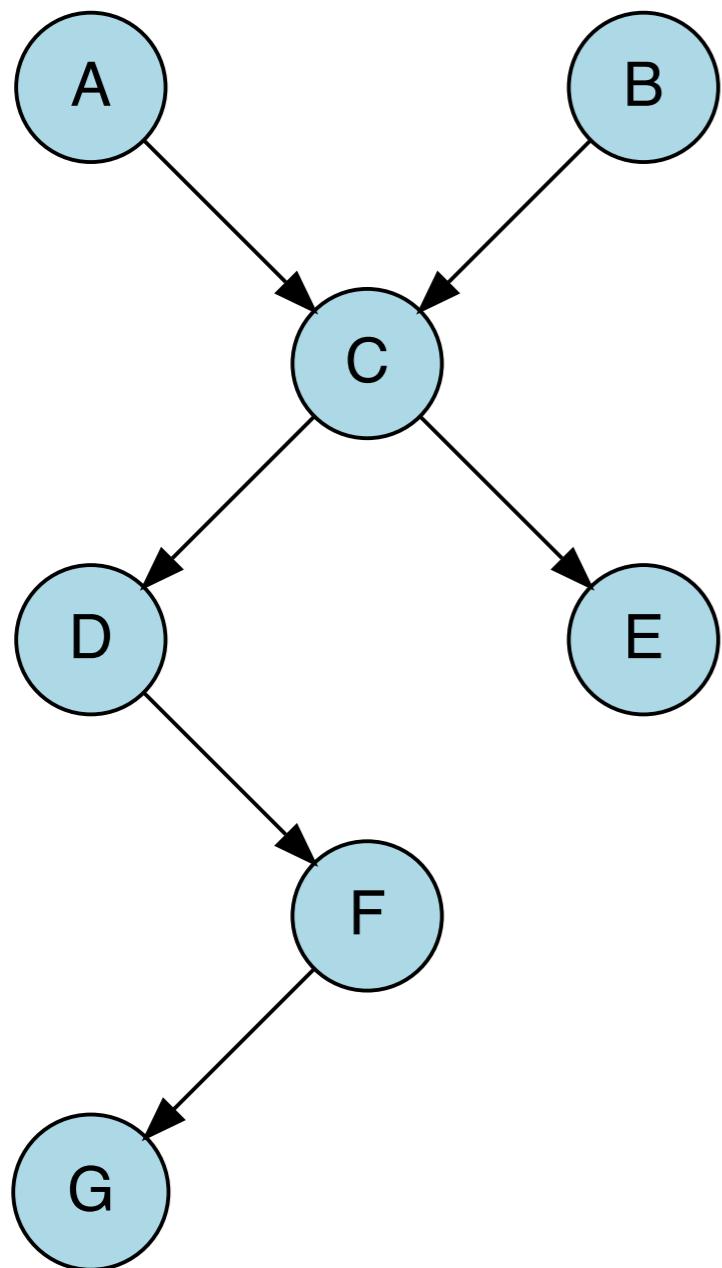


# When should I control for variables?

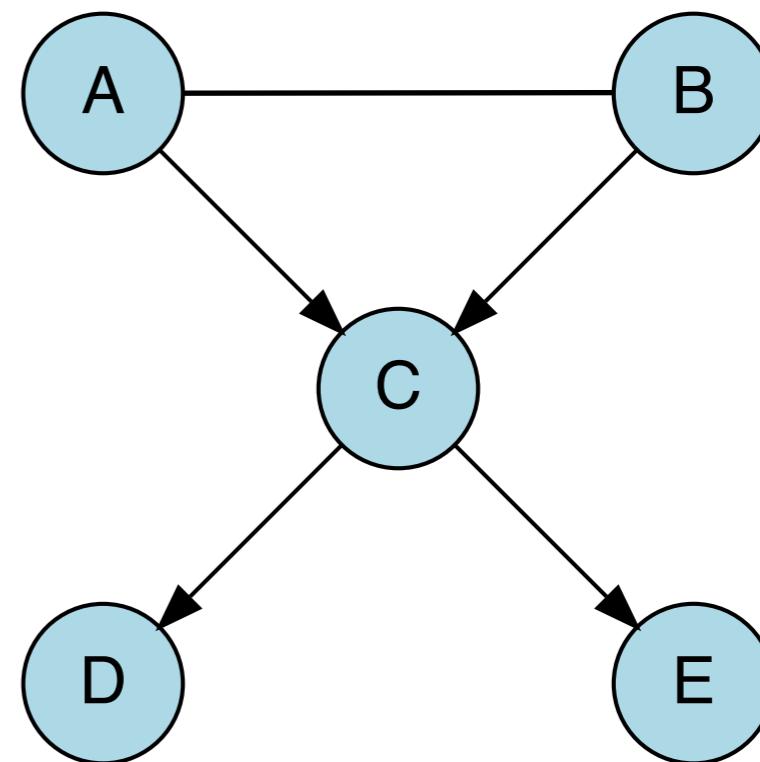
**Are D and E independent, given C? 2. "Moralize" the graph**

$$p(D | E, C) = p(D | C) ?$$

**let's get married!**



For each pair of variables with a common child, draw an undirected edge (line) between them. (If a variable has more than two parents, draw lines between every pair of parents.)

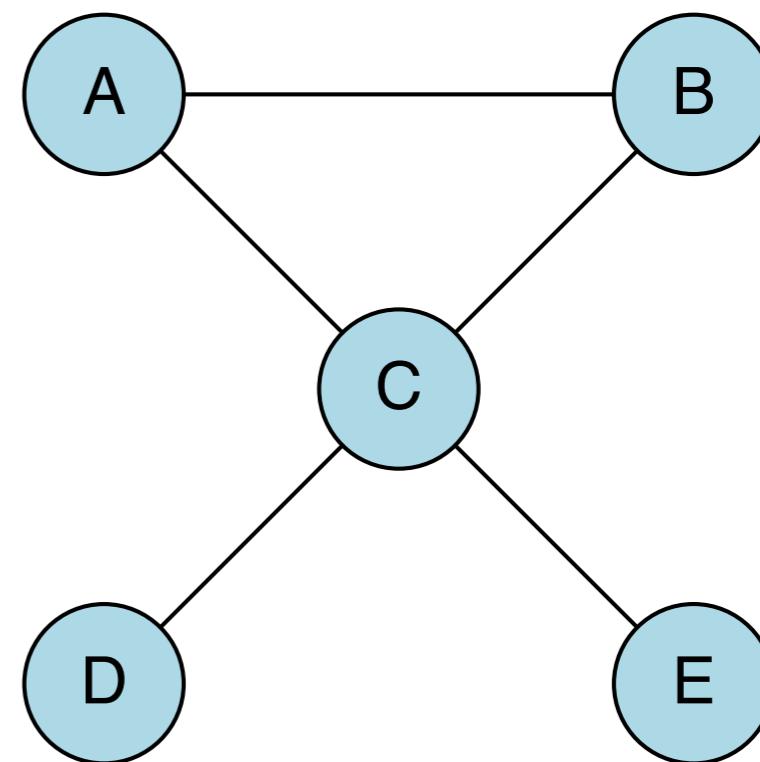
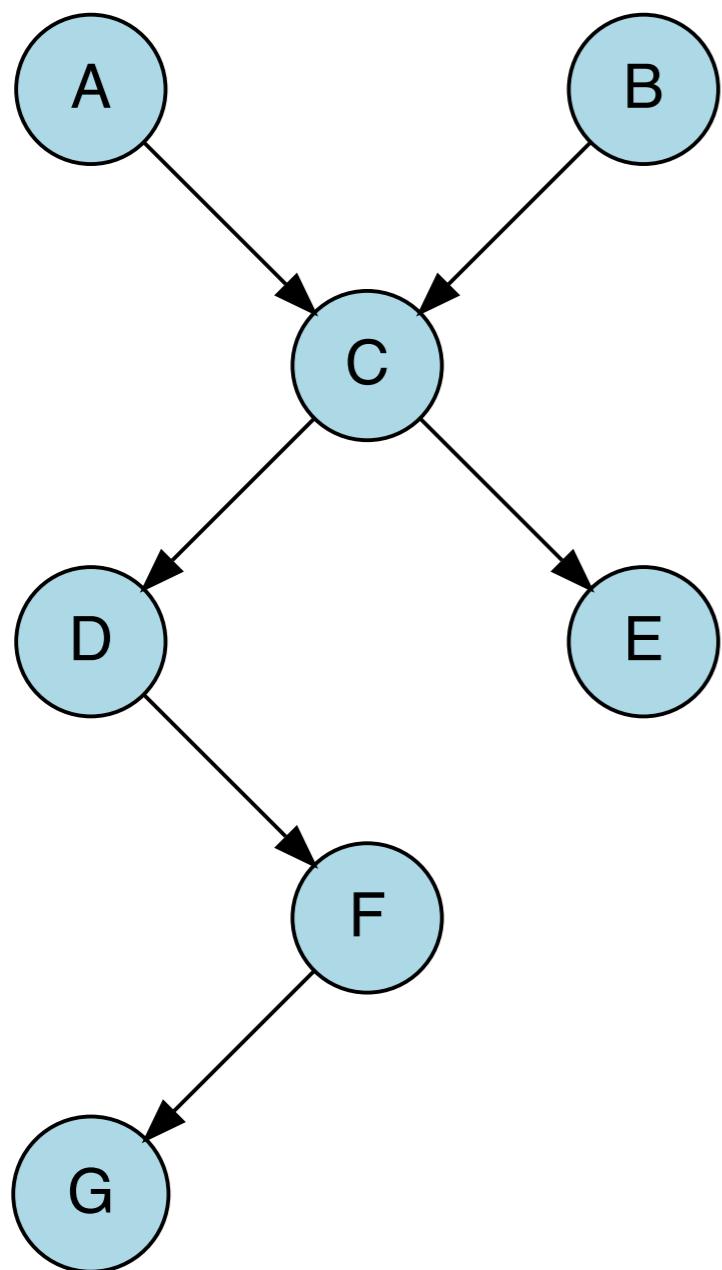


# When should I control for variables?

**Are D and E independent, given C? 3. "Disorient" the graph**

$$p(D | E, C) = p(D | C) ?$$

Replace arrows with lines



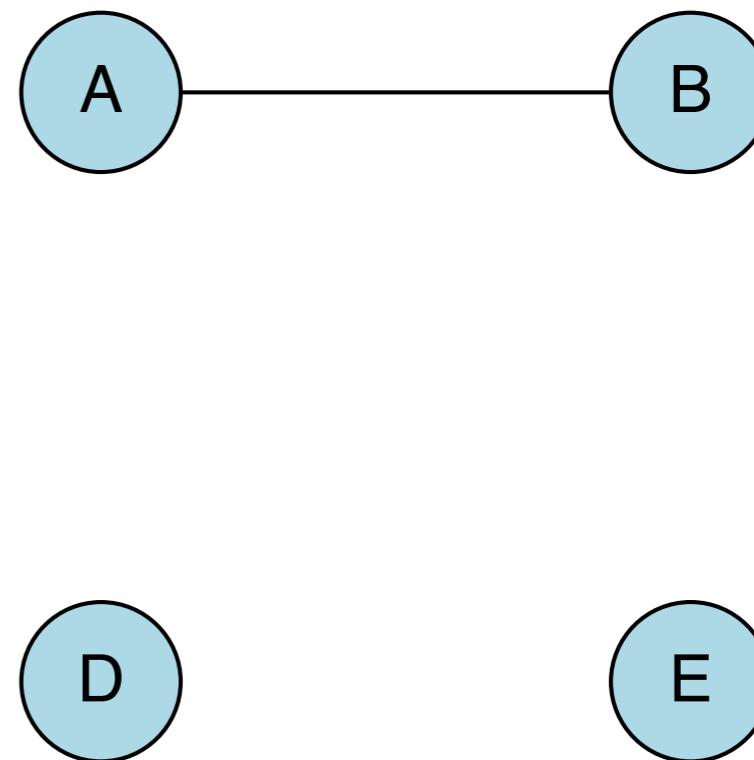
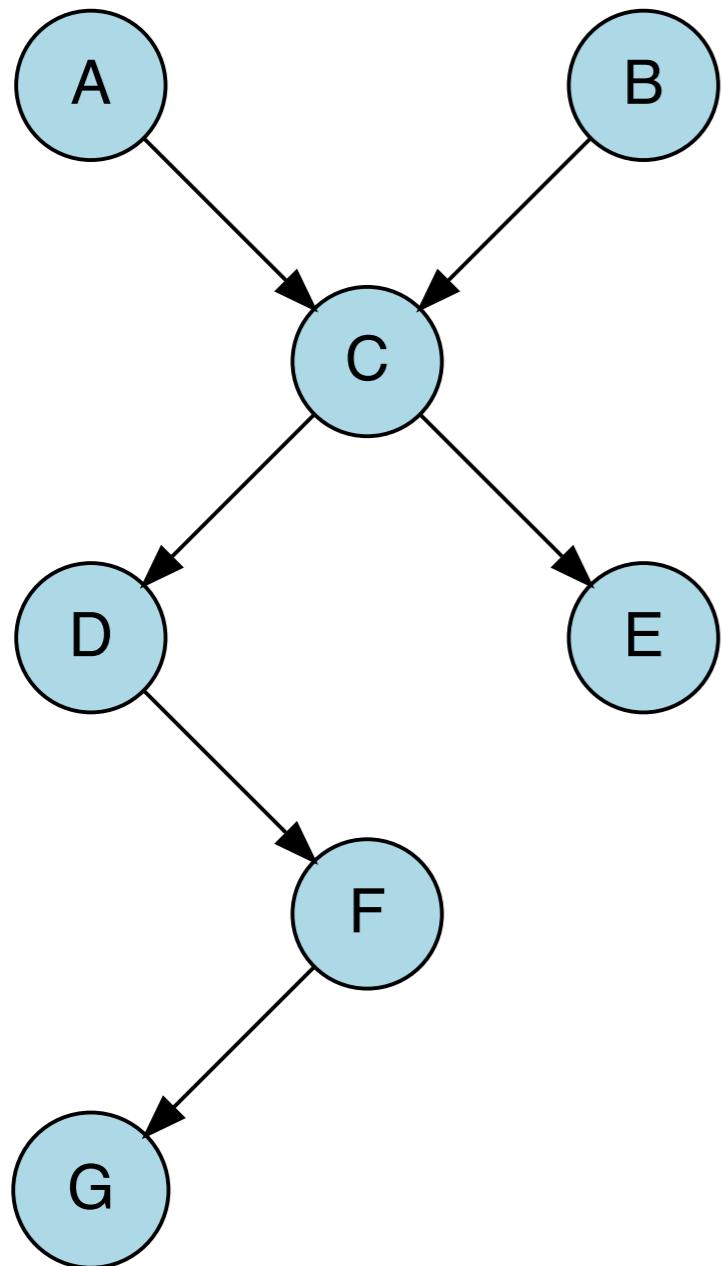
# When should I control for variables?

**Are D and E independent, given C? 4. Delete the givens**

$$p(D | E, C) = p(D | C) ?$$

Remove the variables that we condition on, as well as their edges

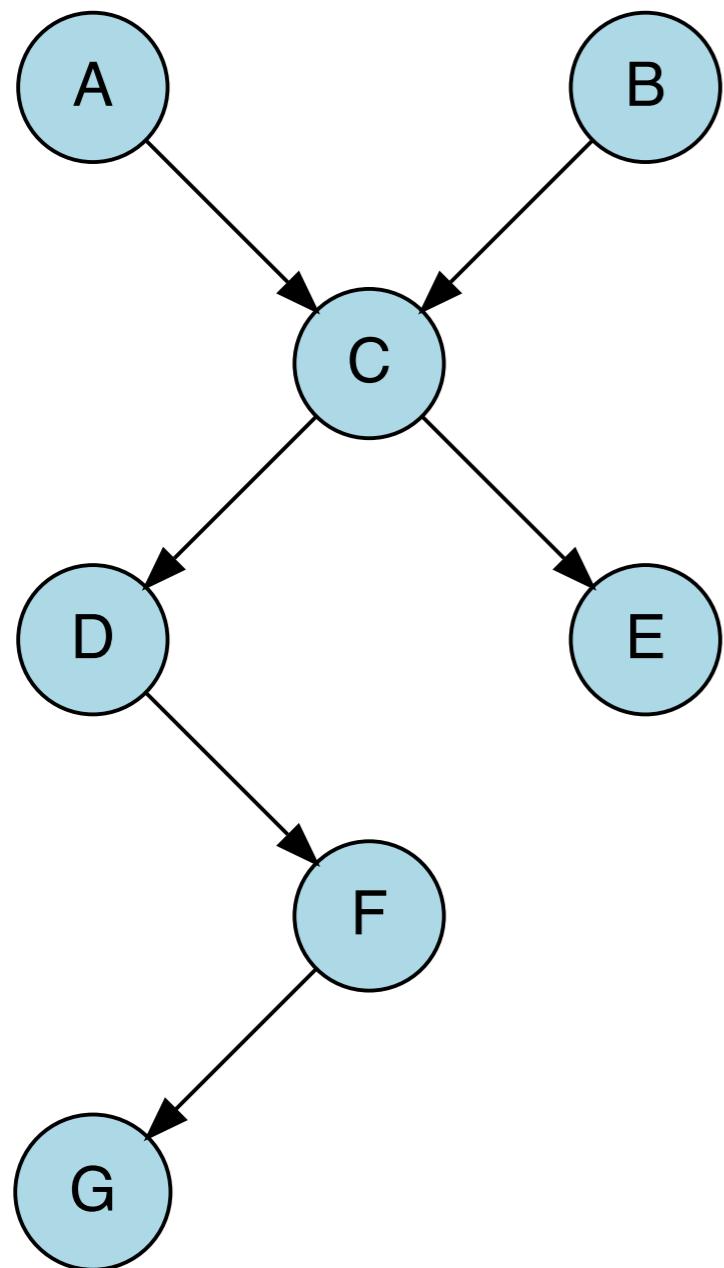
**we conditioned on C!**



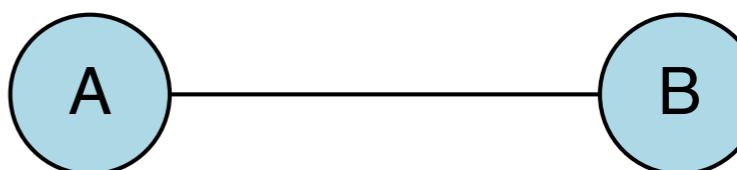
# When should I control for variables?

**Are D and E independent, given C? 5. Read answer off the graph**

$$p(D | E, C) = p(D | C) ?$$



- if variables are **disconnected** they are independent
- if variables are connected (have a path between them) they are not guaranteed to be independent



**D and E are independent from each other conditioned on C**



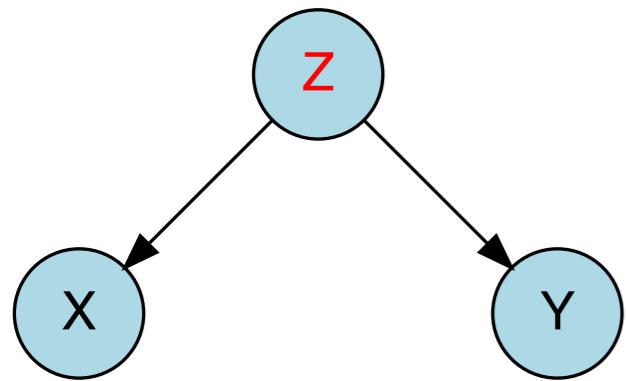
**they aren't connected via a path**

# So what?

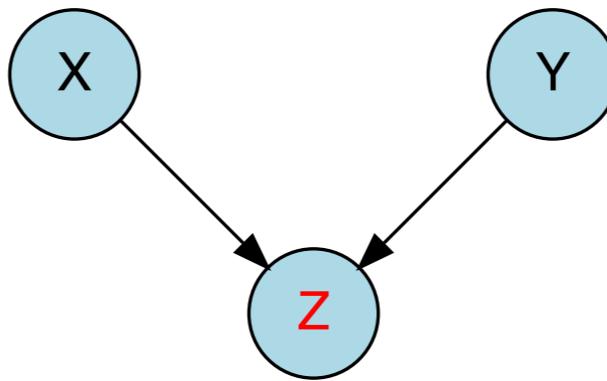


# Patterns of inference

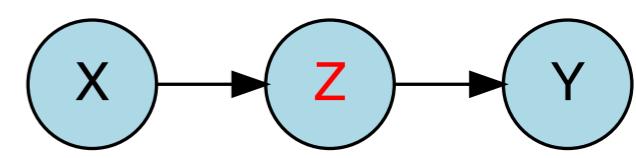
We want to estimate the (causal) relationship between X and Y



common cause



common effect



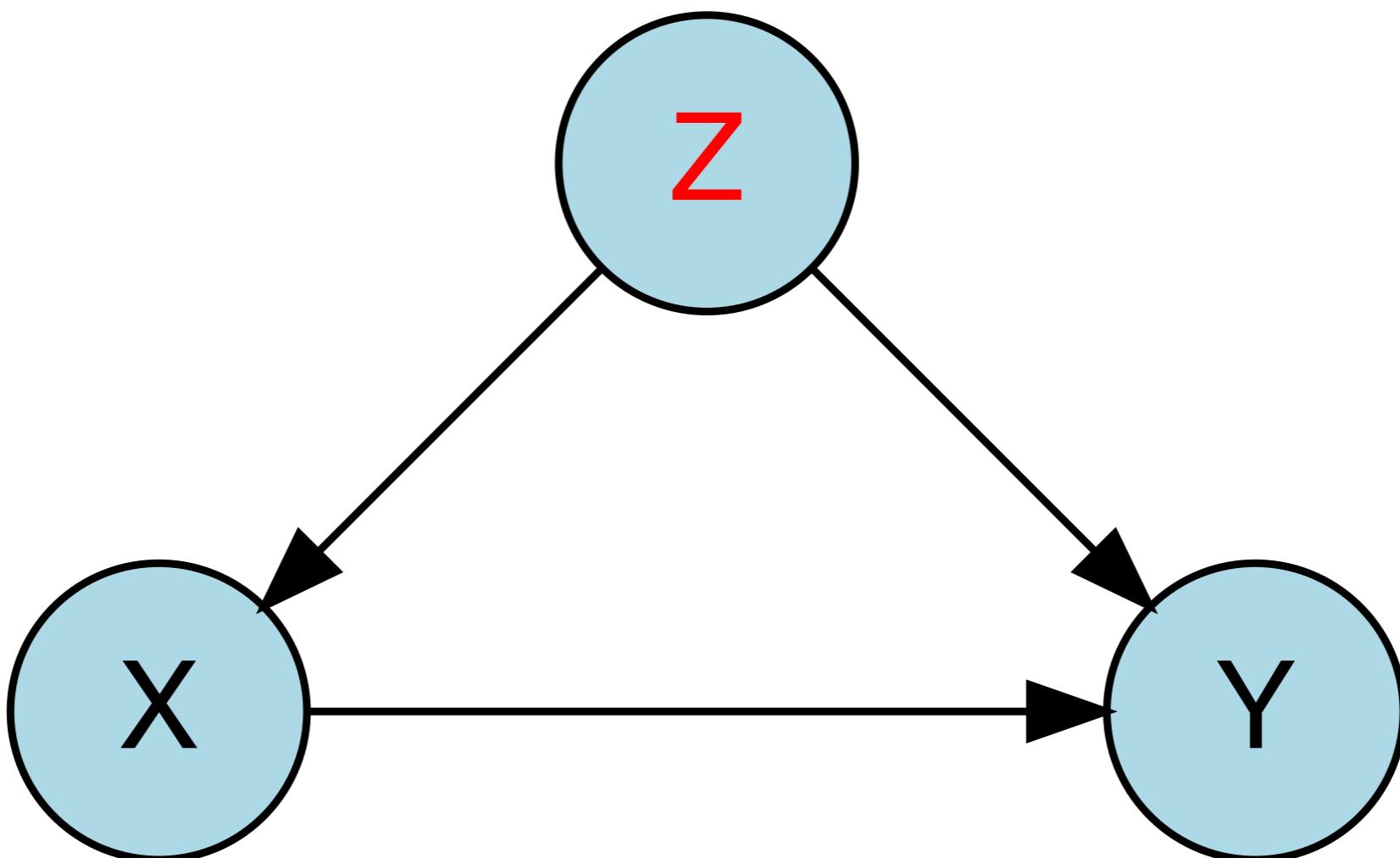
causal chain

by controlling for Z we hope to get a better estimate of the relationship between X and Y

**d-separation** helps us tell apart **good controls** from **bad controls**

# When should I control for variables?

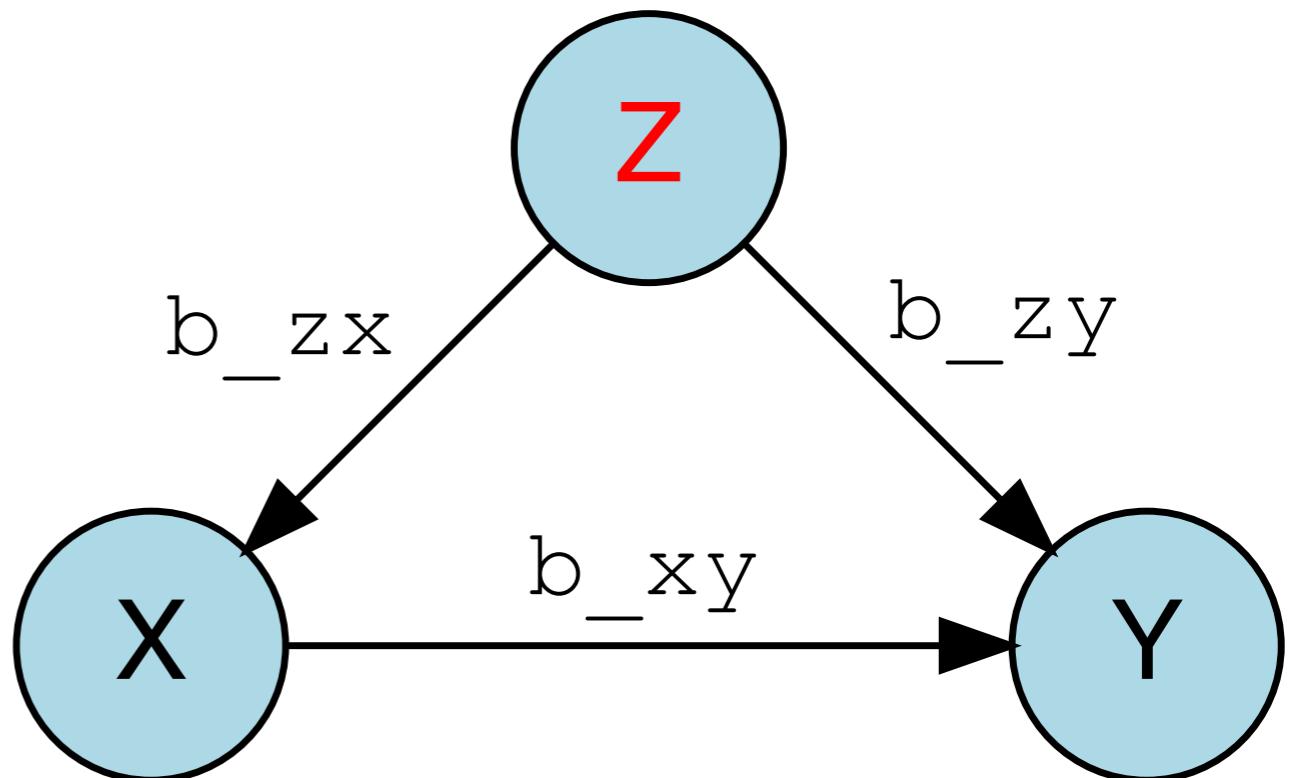
I want to estimate the effect that X has on Y



Is Z a **good** or a **bad** control here?

# When should I control for variables?

```
1 set.seed(1)
2
3 n = 1000
4 b_zx = 2
5 b_xy = 2
6 b_zy = 2
7 sd = 1
8
9 df = tibble(z = rnorm(n = n, sd = sd),
10             x = b_zx * z + rnorm(n = n, sd = sd),
11             y = b_zy * z + b_xy * x + rnorm(n = n, sd = sd))
```



overestimating  
X's effect on Y

$$Y = b_0 + b_1 \cdot X + e$$

```
1 # without control
2 lm(formula = y ~ x,
3     data = df) %>%
4     summary()
```

```
Call:
lm(formula = y ~ x, data = df)

Residuals:
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max 
-4.6011 -0.9270 -0.0506  0.9711  4.0454 

Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)    
(Intercept) 0.02449   0.04389   0.558   0.577    
x           2.82092   0.01890 149.225 <2e-16 ***  
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

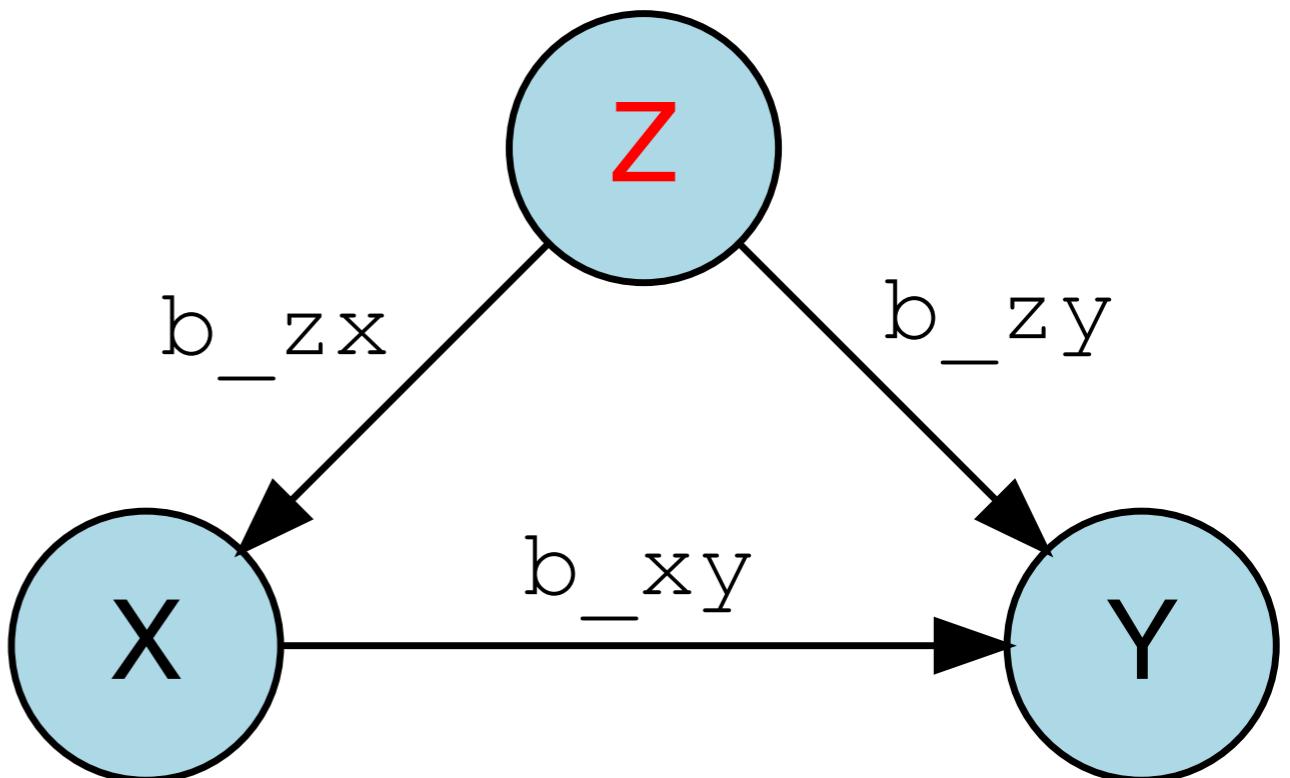
Residual standard error: 1.388 on 998 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.9571,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.9571 
F-statistic: 2.227e+04 on 1 and 998 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

# When should I control for variables?

```
1 set.seed(1)
2
3 n = 1000
4 b_zx = 2
5 b_xy = 2
6 b_zy = 2
7 sd = 1
8
9 df = tibble(z = rnorm(n = n, sd = sd),
10             x = b_zx * z + rnorm(n = n, sd = sd),
11             y = b_zy * z + b_xy * x + rnorm(n = n, sd = sd))
```

$$Y = b_0 + b_1 \cdot X + b_2 \cdot Z + e$$

```
1 # with control
2 lm(formula = y ~ x + z,
3     data = df) %>%
4     summary()
```



accurate estimate  
of X's effect on Y

```
Call:
lm(formula = y ~ x + z, data = df)

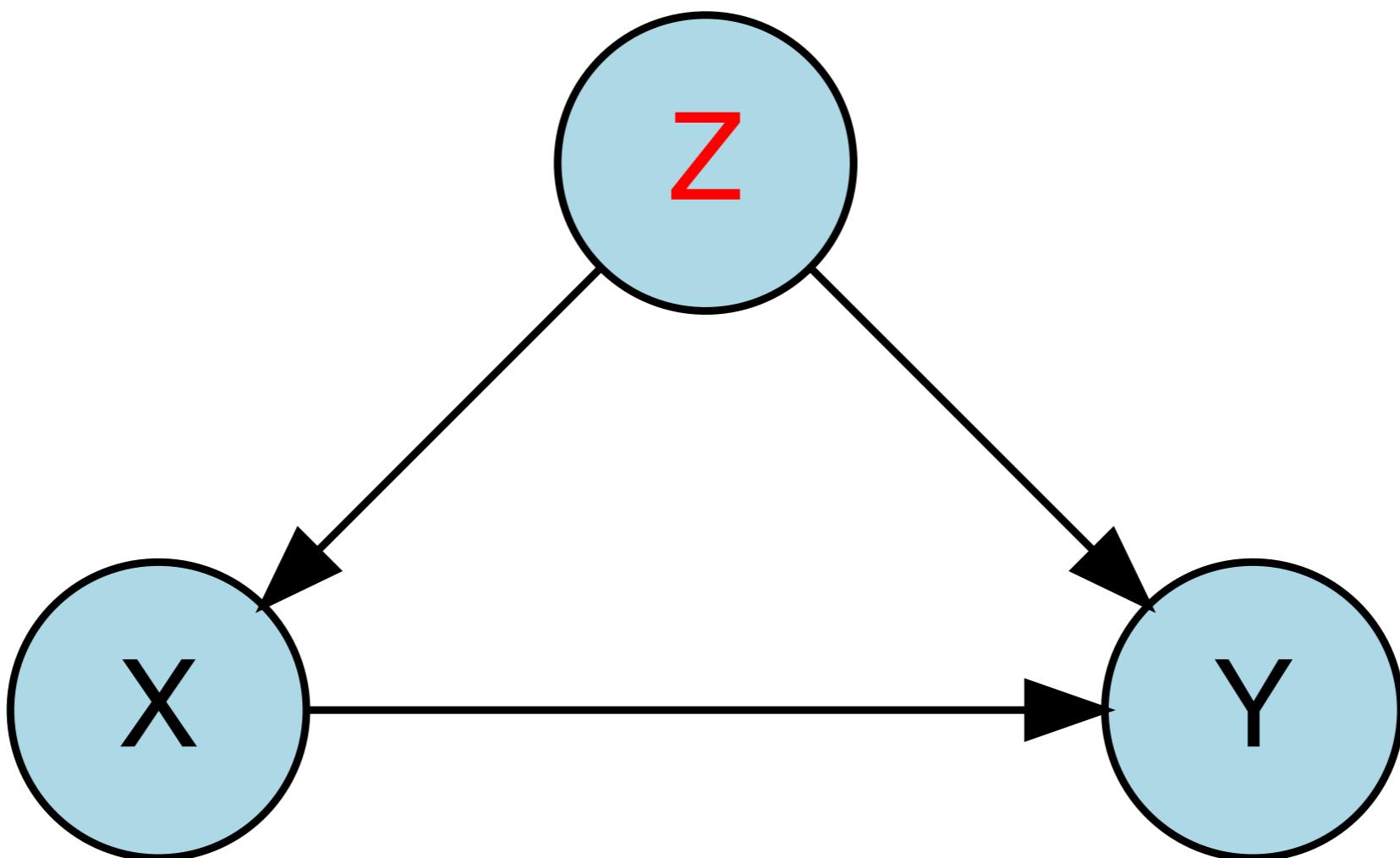
Residuals:
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max 
-3.6151 -0.6564 -0.0223  0.6815  2.8132 

Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)    
(Intercept) 0.01624   0.03260   0.498   0.618    
x           2.02202   0.03135  64.489 <2e-16 ***
z           2.00501   0.07036  28.497 <2e-16 ***  
---
Signif. codes:  0 '****' 0.001 '***' 0.01 '**' 0.05 '*' 0.1 '.' 1 

Residual standard error: 1.031 on 997 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.9764,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.9763 
F-statistic: 2.059e+04 on 2 and 997 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

# When should I control for variables?

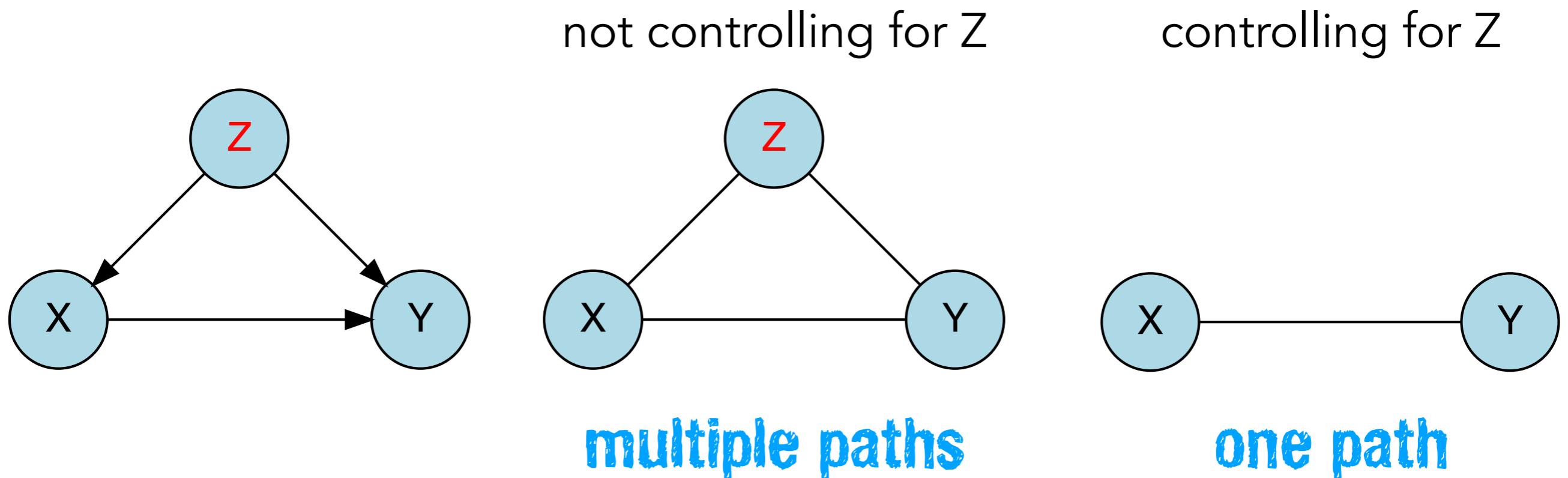
I want to estimate the effect that X has on Y



Z is a **good** control here!

# When should I control for variables?

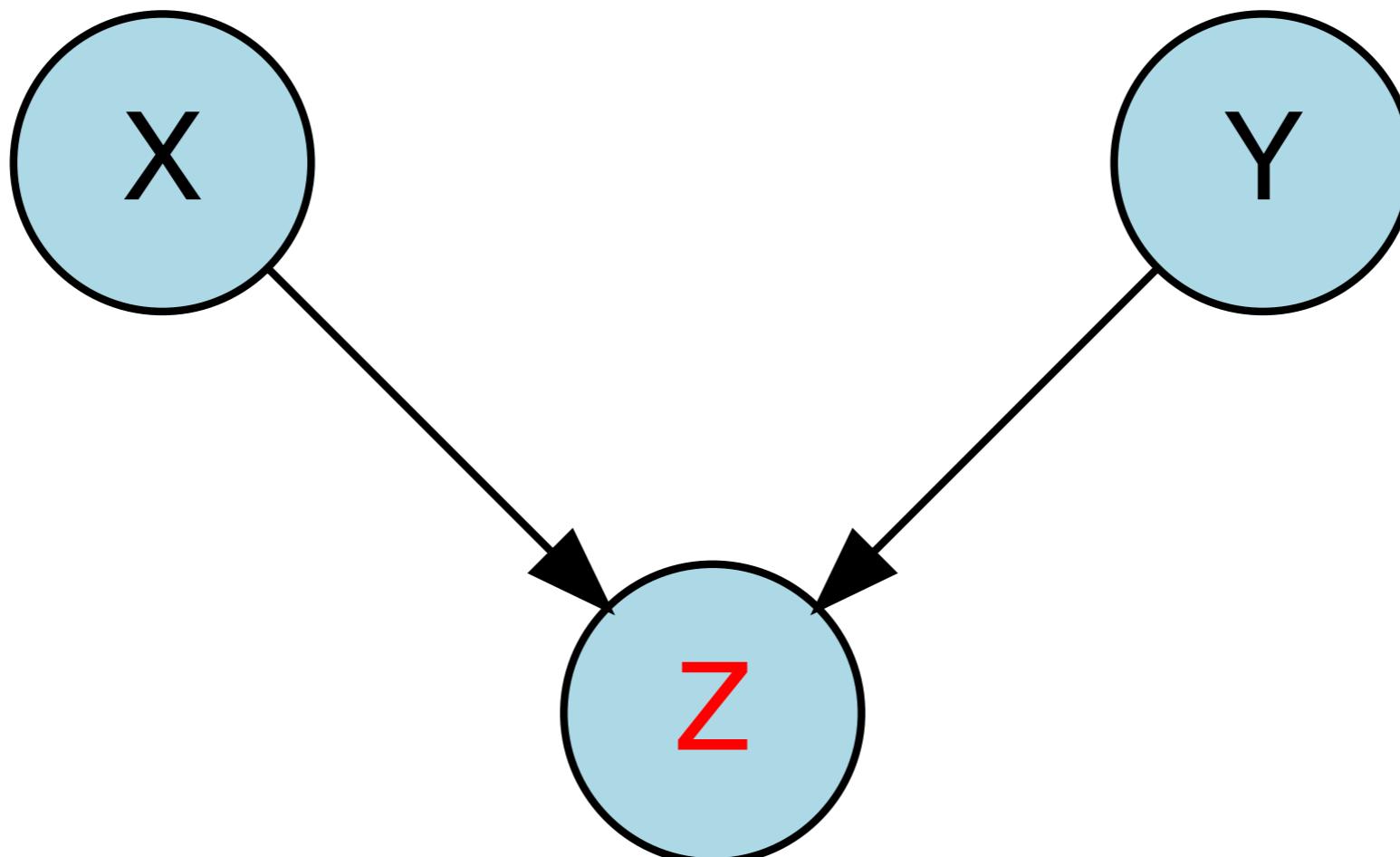
I want to estimate the effect that X has on Y



Z is a **good** control here!

# When should I control for variables?

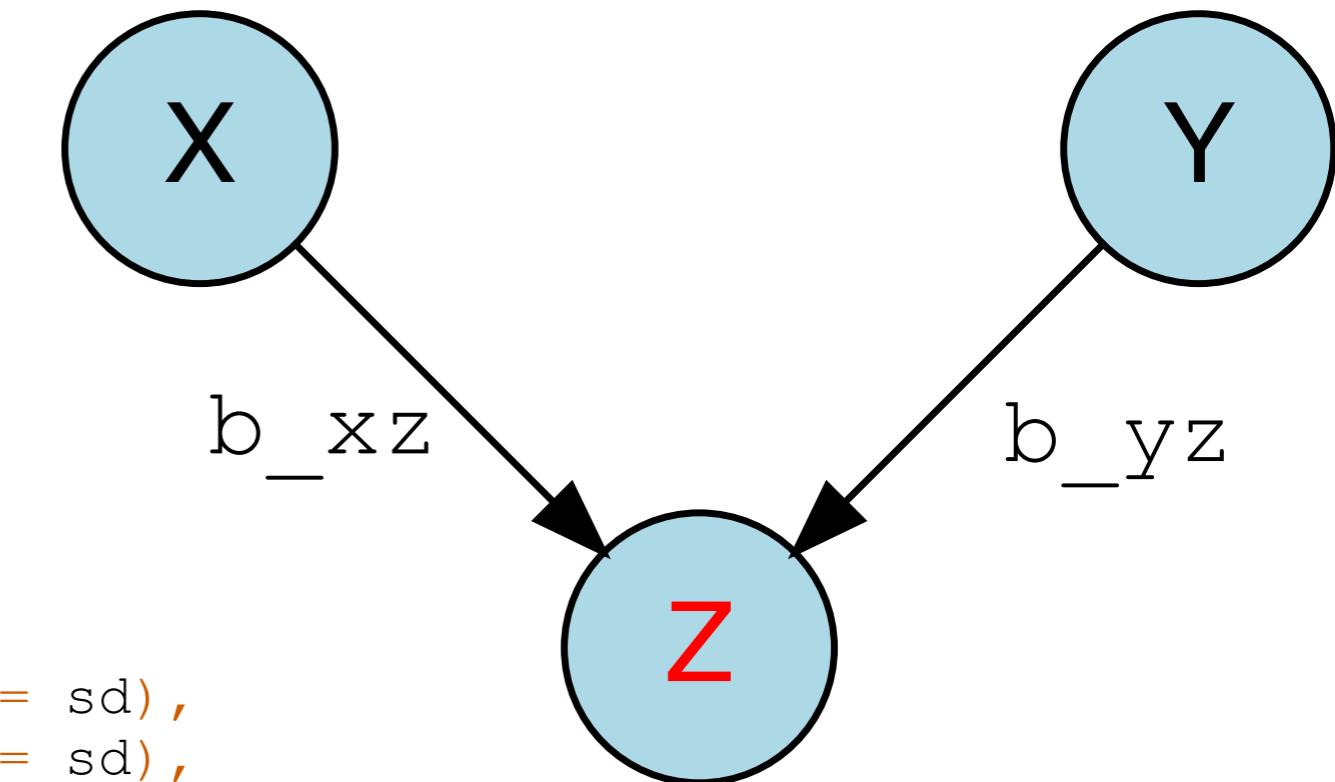
I want to estimate the effect that X has on Y



Is Z a **good** or a **bad** control here?

# When should I control for variables?

```
1 set.seed(1)
2
3 n = 1000
4 b_xz = 2
5 b_yz = 2
6 sd = 1
7
8 df = tibble(x = rnorm(n = n, sd = sd),
9               y = rnorm(n = n, sd = sd),
10              z = x * b_xz + y * b_yz + rnorm(n = n, sd = sd))
```



$$Y = b_0 + b_1 \cdot X + e$$

```
1 # without control
2 lm(formula = y ~ x,
3     data = df) %>%
4     summary()
```

Call:  
lm(formula = y ~ x, data = df)

Residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-3.2484	-0.6720	-0.0138	0.7554	3.6443

Coefficients:

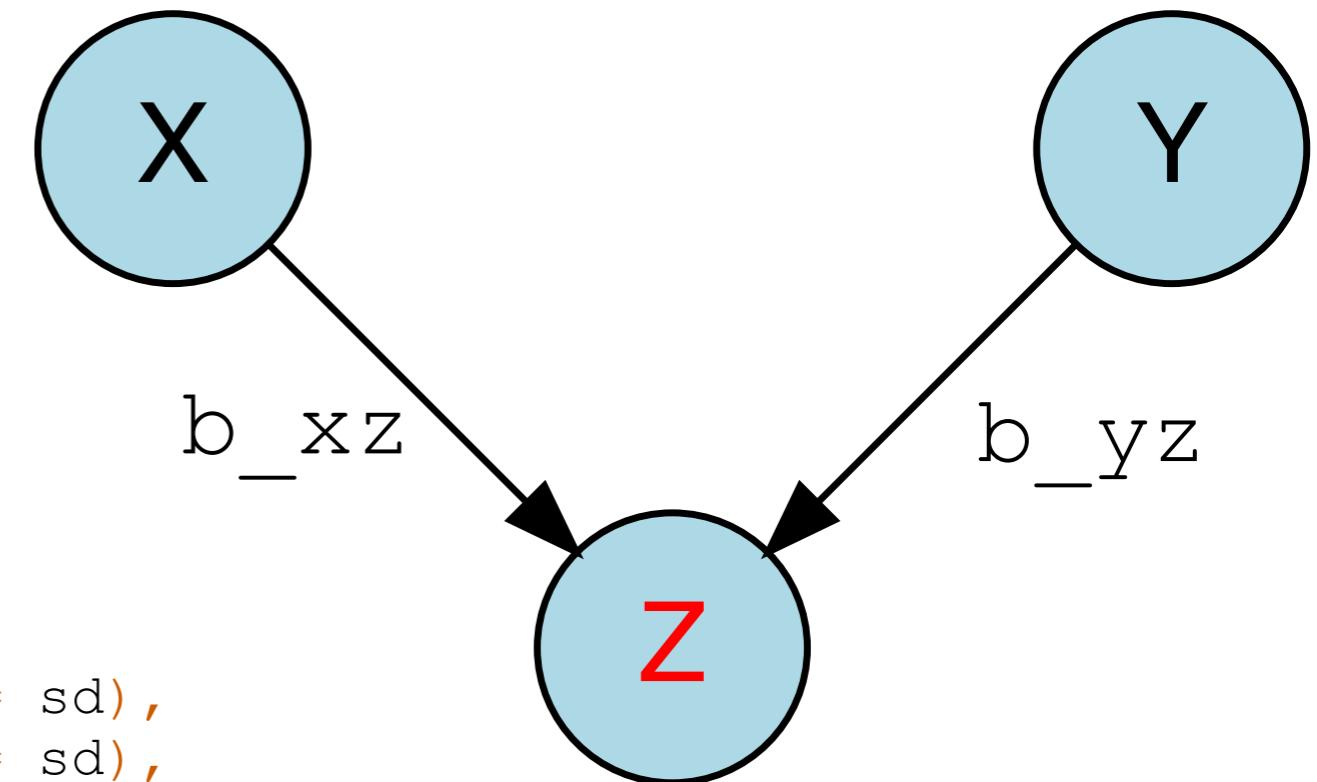
	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	-0.016187	0.032905	-0.492	0.623
x	0.006433	0.031809	0.202	0.840

Residual standard error: 1.04 on 998 degrees of freedom  
Multiple R-squared: 4.098e-05, Adjusted R-squared: -0.000961  
F-statistic: 0.0409 on 1 and 998 DF, p-value: 0.8398

**accurate estimate  
of X's effect on Y**

# When should I control for variables?

```
1 set.seed(1)
2
3 n = 1000
4 b_xz = 2
5 b_yz = 2
6 sd = 1
7
8 df = tibble(x = rnorm(n = n, sd = sd),
9               y = rnorm(n = n, sd = sd),
10              z = x * b_xz + y * b_yz + rnorm(n = n, sd = sd))
```



inaccurate  
estimate of X's  
effect on Y

$$Y = b_0 + b_1 \cdot X + b_2 \cdot Z + e$$

```
1 # with control
2 lm(formula = y ~ x + z,
3     data = df) %>%
4     summary()
```

```
Call:
lm(formula = y ~ x + z, data = df)

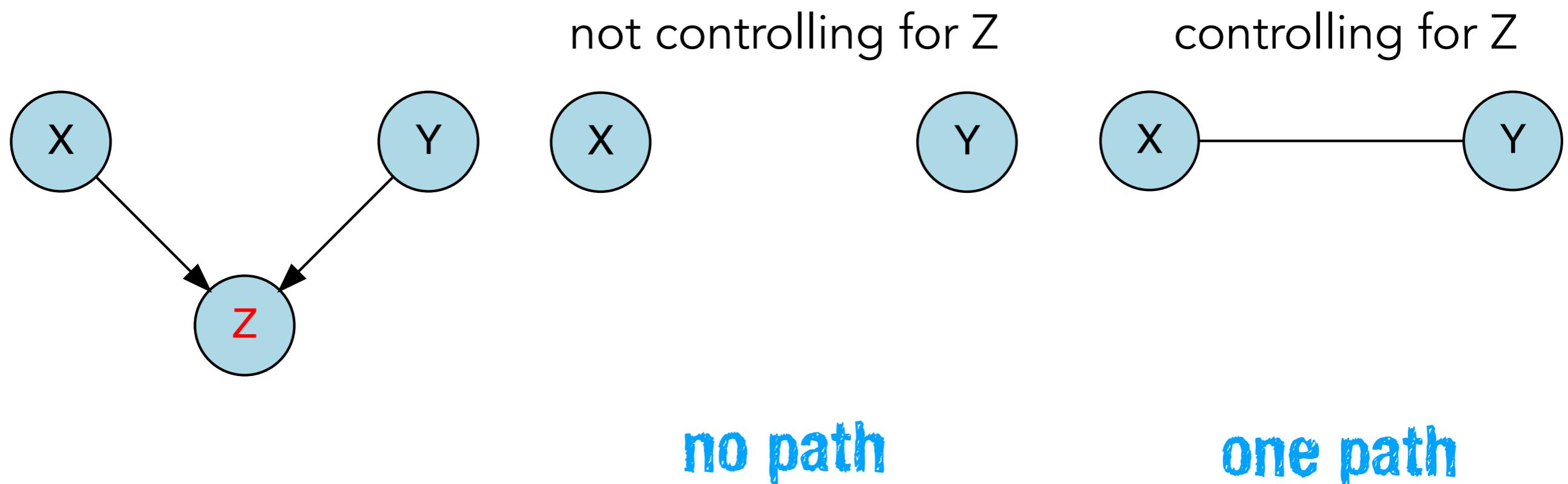
Residuals:
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max 
-1.35547 -0.30016  0.00298  0.31119  1.73408 

Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)    
(Intercept) -0.009608   0.014477  -0.664   0.507    
x            -0.816164   0.018936 -43.102 <2e-16 ***  
z             0.398921   0.006186  64.489 <2e-16 ***  
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 0.4578 on 997 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.8066,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.8062 
F-statistic: 2079 on 2 and 997 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

# When should I control for variables?

I want to estimate the effect that X has on Y



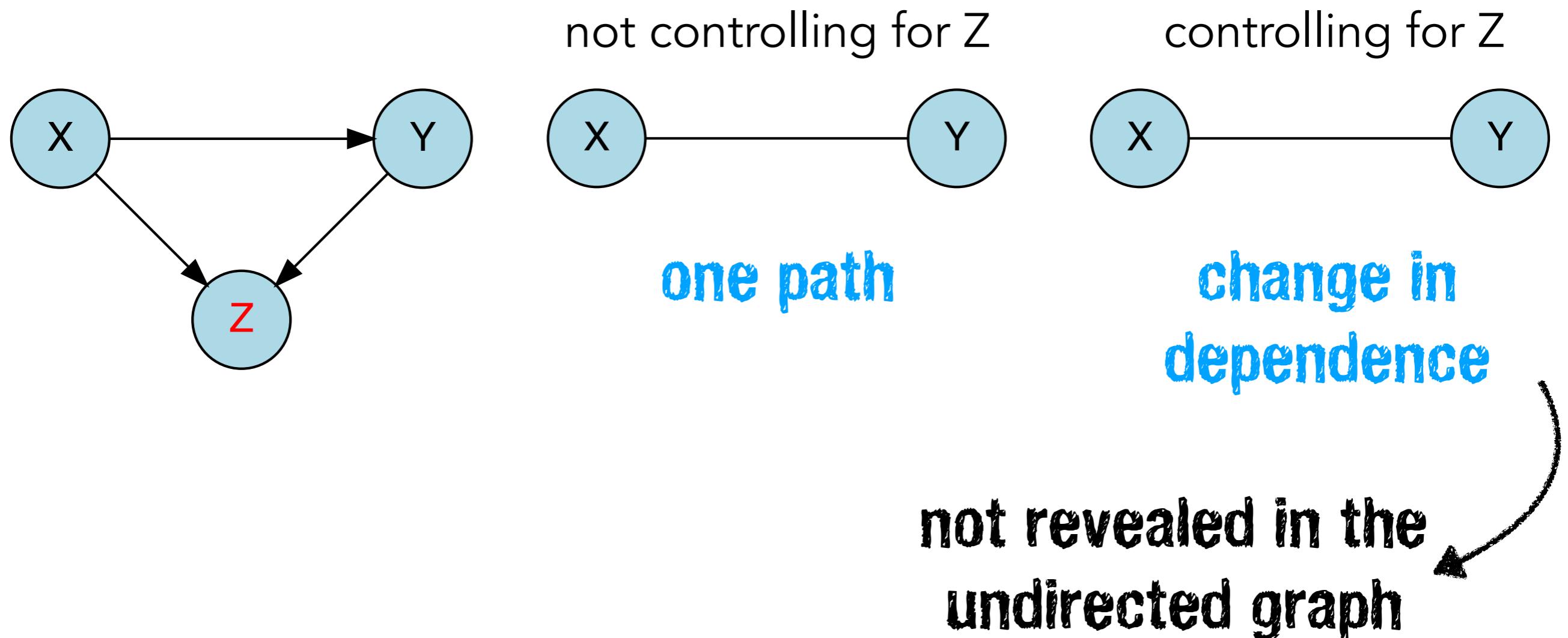
Z is a **bad** control here!

# When should I control for variables?

- checking for **d-separation** tells us whether or not variables are (conditionally) independent
- it also tells us whether paths of dependence "open up", or get "closed down"
- the graphical procedure doesn't necessarily reveal whether the dependence between variables changes: it reveals the **structure** of dependence but not the **strength**
- you can always double check via running simulations in R

# When should I control for variables?

I want to estimate the effect that X has on Y



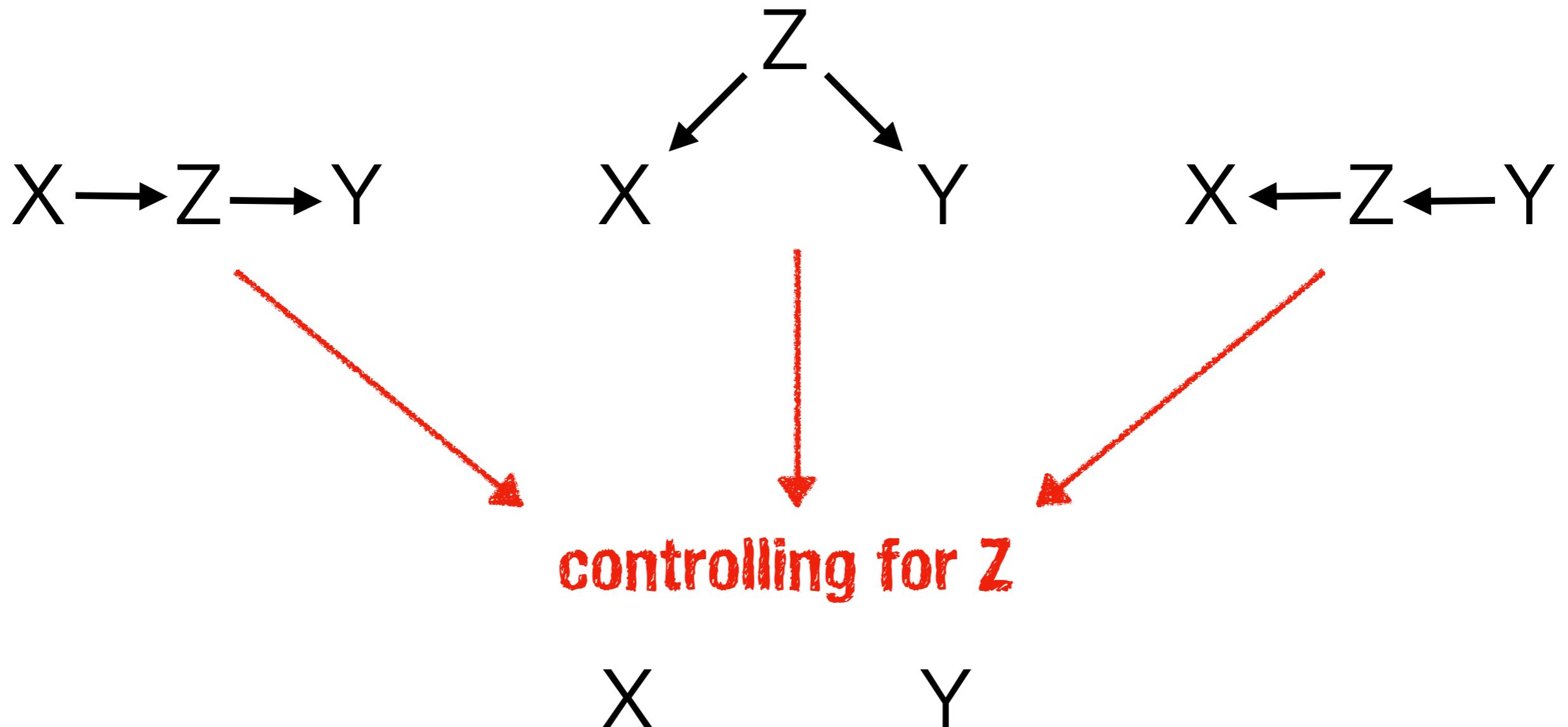
Z is a **bad** control here!

# When should I control for variables?

- **good controls** reduce additional paths from X to Y apart from the direct path we are interested in estimating
- **bad controls** introduce additional paths (or change existing ones) that lead to a biased estimate of the direct path between X and Y

# When should I control for variables?

**Problem: We don't know the ground truth ...**

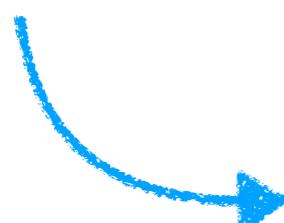


we need to manipulate X experimentally to tell these apart\*

\* sort of (see next slide)

# When should I control for variables?

- causal discovery is a very active field



**what causal claims can we make  
from observational data?**

Identifiability of Gaussian structural equation models with equal  
error variances

Jonas Peters\*

Seminar for Statistics  
ETH Zurich  
Switzerland

Peter Bühlmann\*

Seminar for Statistics  
ETH Zurich  
Switzerland

October 29, 2018

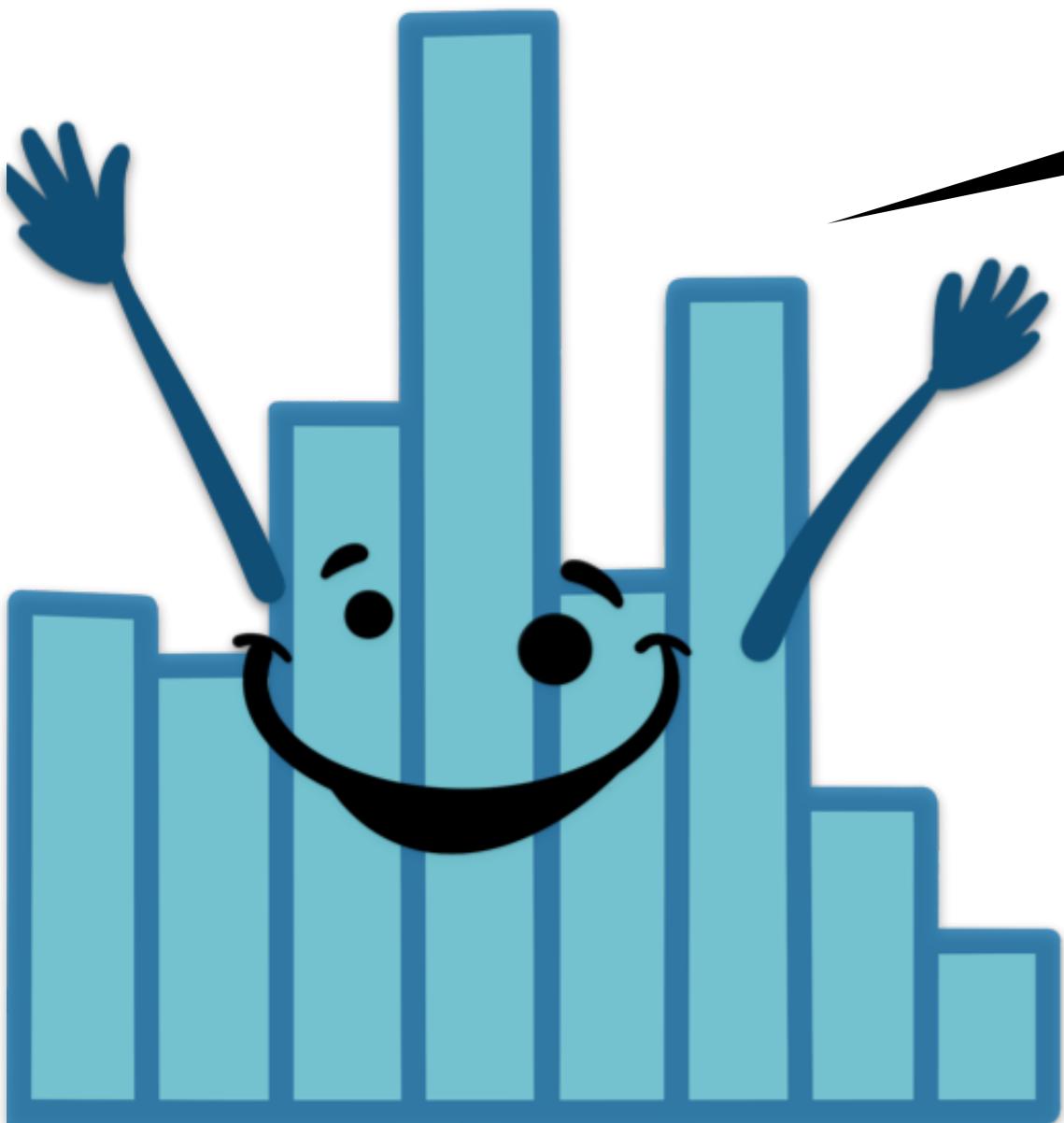
causal model is fully identifiable if all noise variables  
have the same variances, and all variables are observed

**beyond the scope of our class ...**

We're listening to "Talk Of  
The Town" by "Jack  
Johnson, Kawika Kahiapo"  
submitted by Thing Thinker

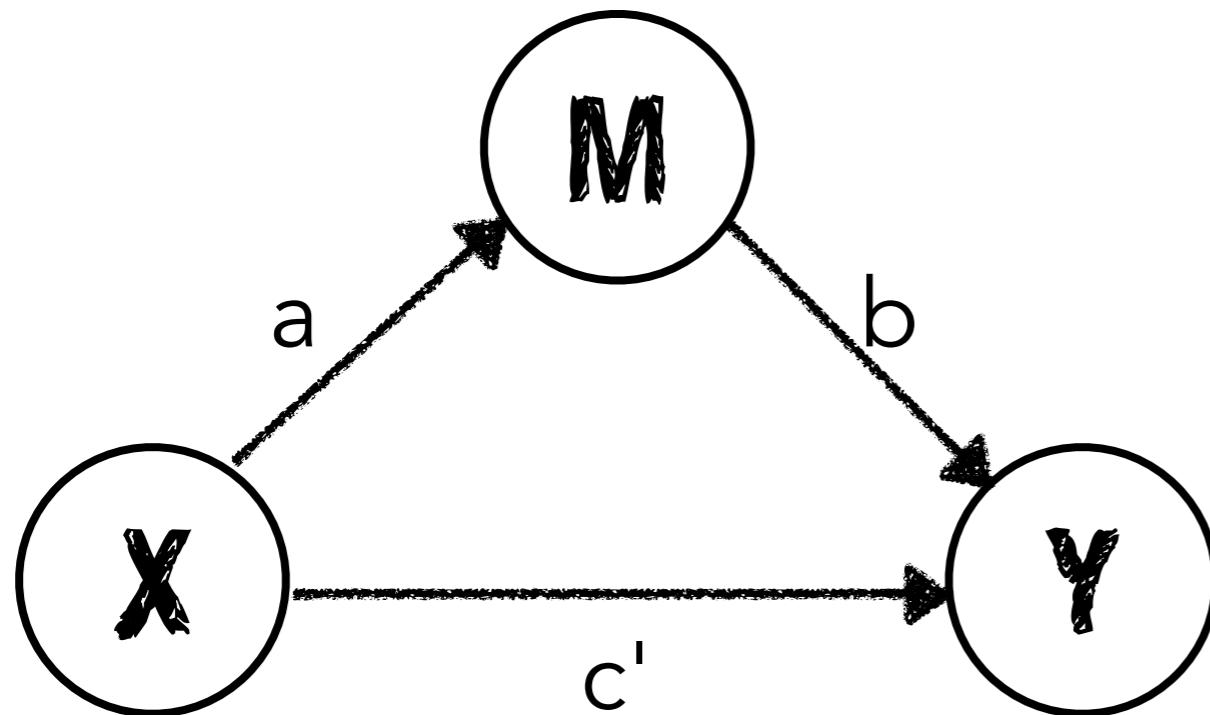
02:00

stretch break!



# **Mediation**

# Definition

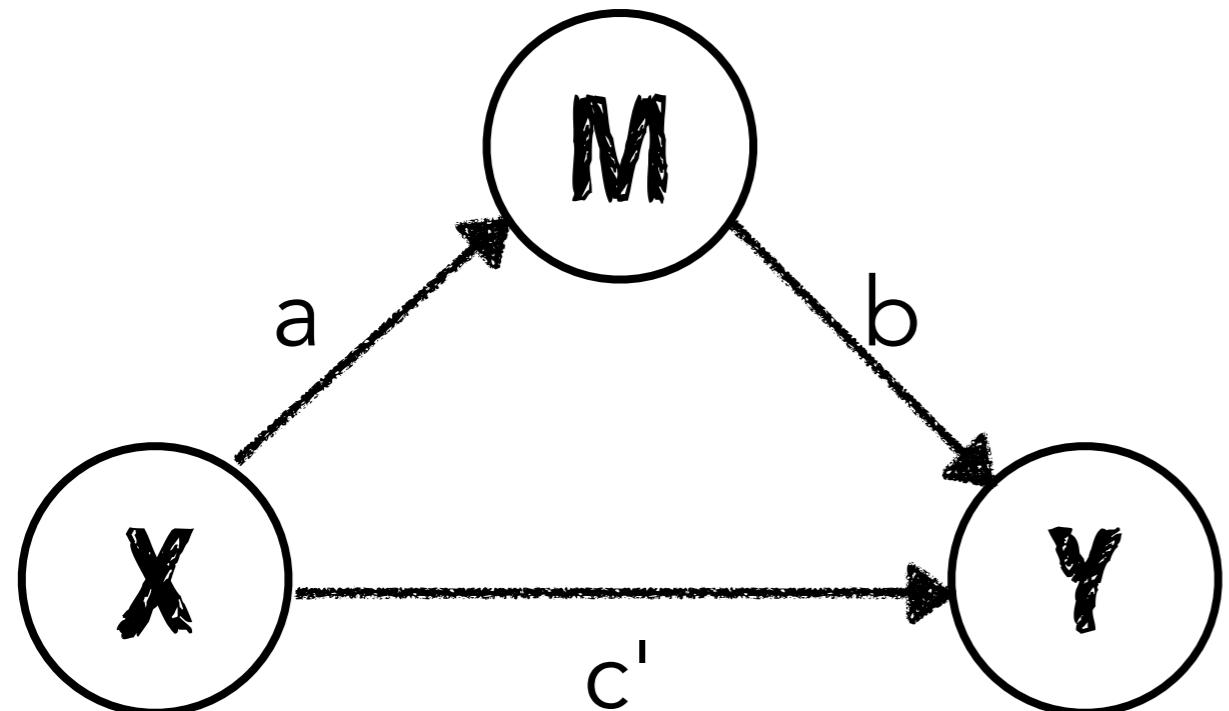


Rather than a direct causal relationship between **X** and **Y**, a mediation model proposes that **X** influences the mediator variable **M**, which in turn influences **Y**. Thus, the mediator variable serves to clarify the nature of the relationship between **X** and **Y**.

**Adapted from Wikipedia**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mediation\\_\(statistics\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mediation_(statistics))

# Example



**X** = grades in Psych 252

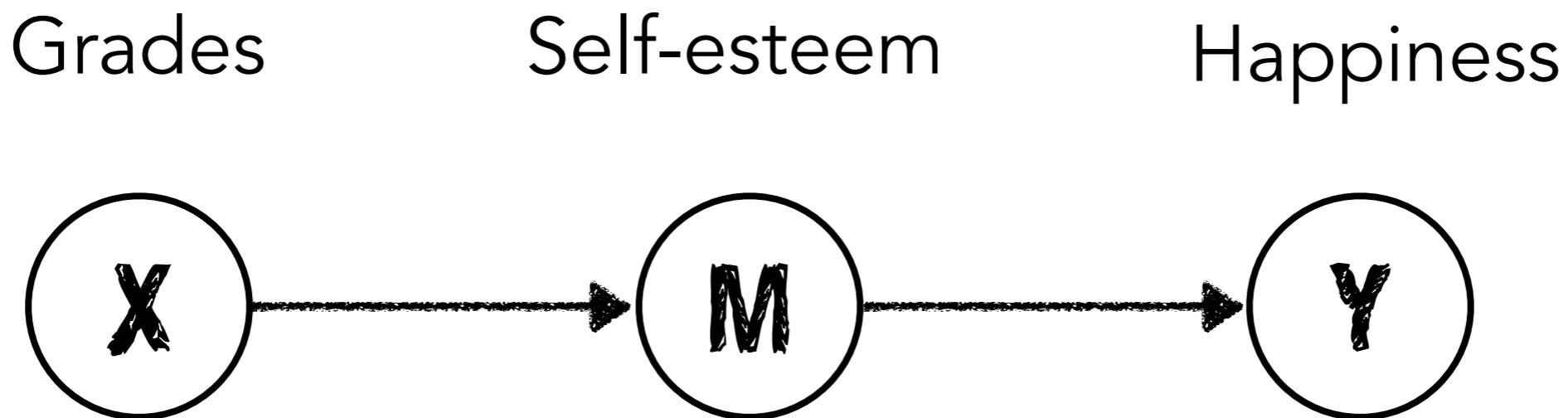
**M** = feelings of self-esteem

**Y** = happiness

Is the relationship between grades in Psych 252 and happiness mediated by feelings of self-esteem?

# Simulate a mediation analysis

```
1 # number of participants
2 n = 100
3
4 # generate data
5 df.mediation = tibble(
6   x = rnorm(n, 75, 7),           # grades
7   m = 0.7 * x + rnorm(n, 0, 5), # self-esteem
8   y = 0.4 * m + rnorm(n, 0, 5) # happiness
9 )
```



# Bootstrapping

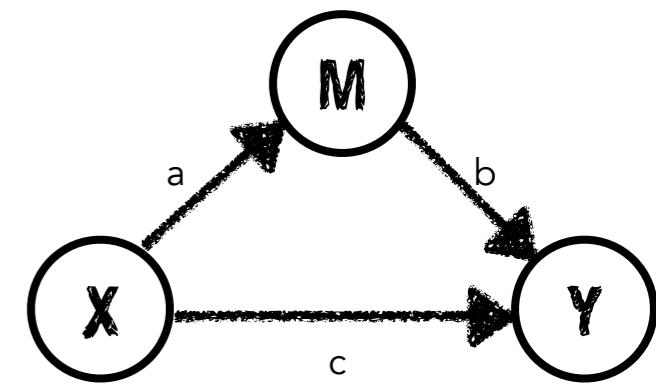
```
1 library("mediation")
```

```
2  
3 # bootstrapped mediation
```

```
4 fit.mediation = mediate(model.m = fit.m_x, ←  $\hat{m} = b_0 + b_1 \cdot x$ 
5 model.y = fit.y_mx, ←  $\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1 \cdot m + b_2 \cdot x$ 
6 treat = "x",
7 mediator = "m",
8 boot = T)
```

```
9  
10 # summarize results
```

```
11 fit.mediation %>% summary()
```



Causal Mediation Analysis

Nonparametric Bootstrap Confidence Intervals with the Percentile Method

	Estimate	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper	p-value	
ACME	0.28078	0.14059	0.42	<2e-16	***
ADE	-0.11179	-0.29276	0.10	0.272	
Total Effect	0.16899	-0.00415	0.34	0.064	.
Prop. Mediated	1.66151	-3.22476	11.46	0.064	.

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*\*' 0.01 '\*\*' 0.05 '\*' 0.1 '.' 1

Sample Size Used: 100

Simulations: 1000

# 2. Bootstrapping

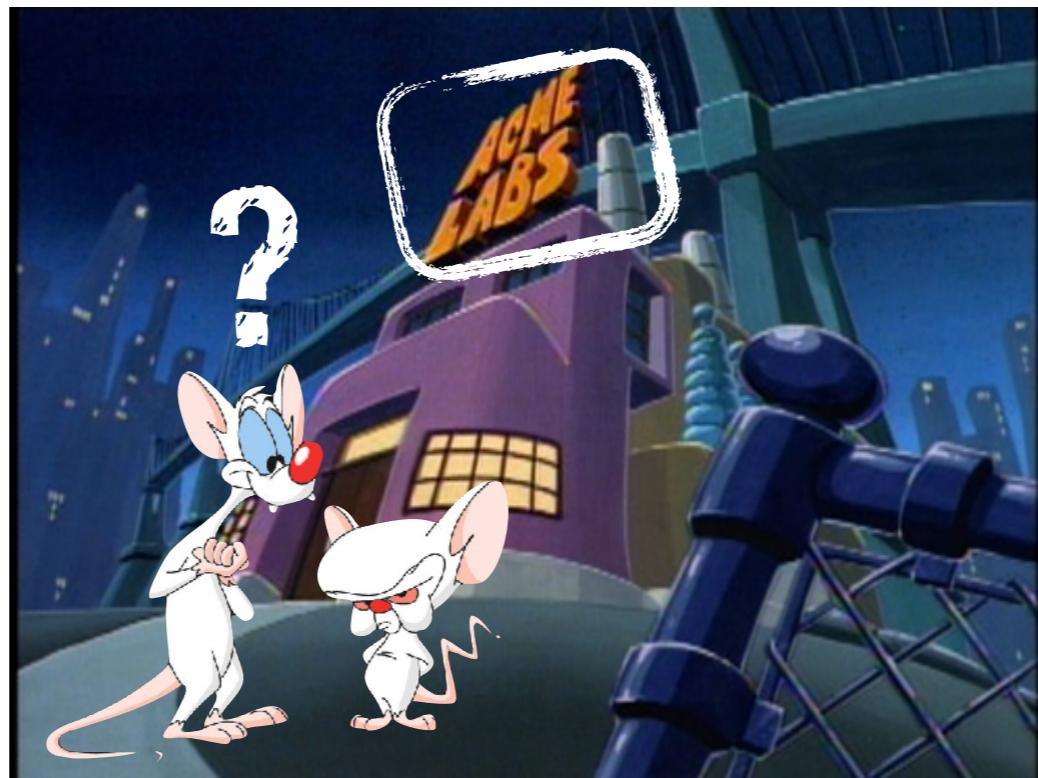
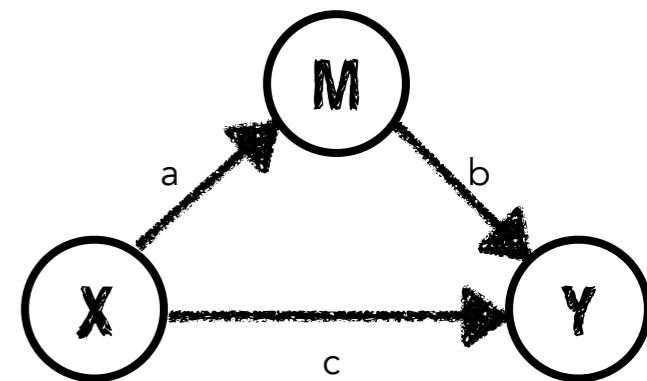
Causal Mediation Analysis

Nonparametric Bootstrap Confidence Intervals with the Percentile Method

	Estimate	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper	p-value	
ACME	0.28078	0.14059	0.42	<2e-16	***
ADE	-0.11179	-0.29276	0.10	0.272	
Total Effect	0.16899	-0.00415	0.34	0.064	.
Prop. Mediated	1.66151	-3.22476	11.46	0.064	.
---					
Signif. codes:	0 '***'	0.001 '**'	0.01 '*'	0.05 '.'	0.1 ' '
					1

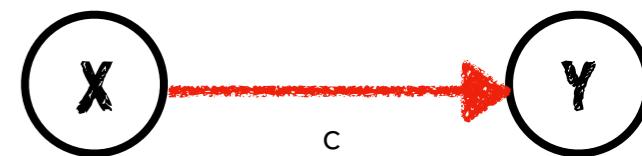
Sample Size Used: 100

Simulations: 1000



## 2. Bootstrapping

M



Causal Mediation Analysis

Nonparametric Bootstrap Confidence Intervals with the Percentile Method

	Estimate	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper	p-value		
ACME	0.28078	0.14059	0.42	<2e-16	***	
ADE	-0.11179	-0.29276	0.10	0.272		
Total Effect	0.16899	-0.00415	0.34	0.064	.	
Prop. Mediated	1.66151	-3.22476	11.46	0.064	.	
---						
Signif. codes:	0 '***'	0.001 '**'	0.01 '*'	0.05 '.'	0.1 ' '	1

Sample Size Used: 100

Simulations: 1000

$$\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1 \cdot x$$

Call:

```
lm(formula = y ~ 1 + x, data = df.mediation)
```

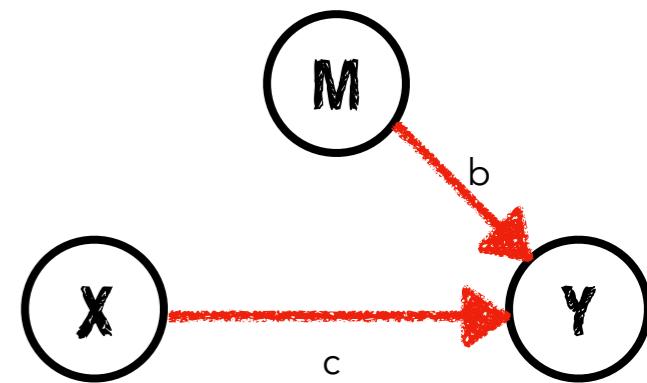
Residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-10.917	-3.738	-0.259	2.910	12.540

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	8.78300	6.16002	1.426	0.1571
x	0.16899	0.08116	2.082	0.0399 *

## 2. Bootstrapping



Causal Mediation Analysis

Nonparametric Bootstrap Confidence Intervals with the Percentile Method

	Estimate	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper	p-value	
ACME	0.28078	0.14059	0.42	<2e-16	***
ADE	-0.11179	-0.29276	0.10	0.272	
Total Effect	0.16899	-0.00415	0.34	0.064	.
Prop. Mediated	1.66151	-3.22476	11.46	0.064	.
---					
Signif. codes:	0 '***'	0.001 '**'	0.01 '*'	0.05 '.'	0.1 ' '
Sample Size Used:	100				

Simulations: 1000

$$\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1 \cdot m + b_2 \cdot x \quad \text{ADE: Average direct effect}$$

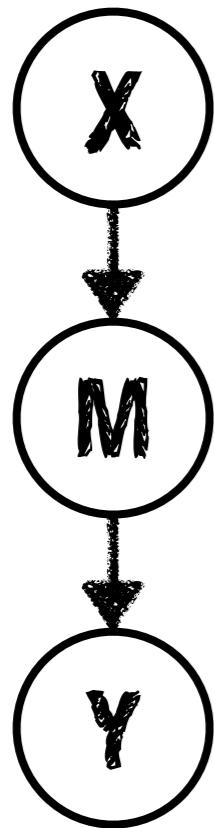
Call:  
lm(formula = y ~ 1 + m + x, data = df.mediation)

Residuals:  
Min 1Q Median 3Q Max  
-9.3651 -3.3037 -0.6222 3.1068 10.3991

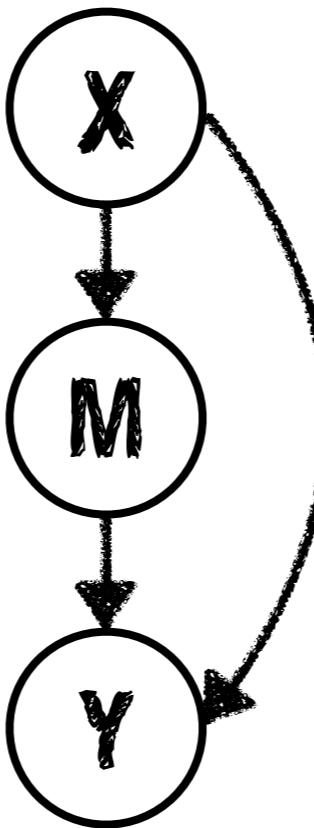
Coefficients:  
Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)  
(Intercept) 7.80952 5.68297 1.374 0.173  
m 0.42381 0.09899 4.281 4.37e-05 \*\*\*  
x -0.11179 0.09949 -1.124 0.264

# Underlying causal model

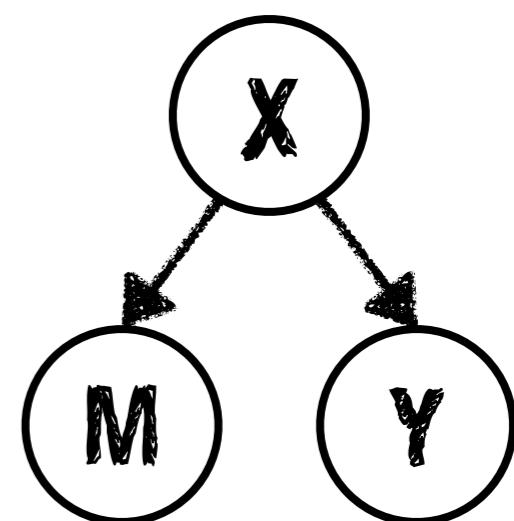
**Full mediation**



**Partial mediation**



**No mediation**

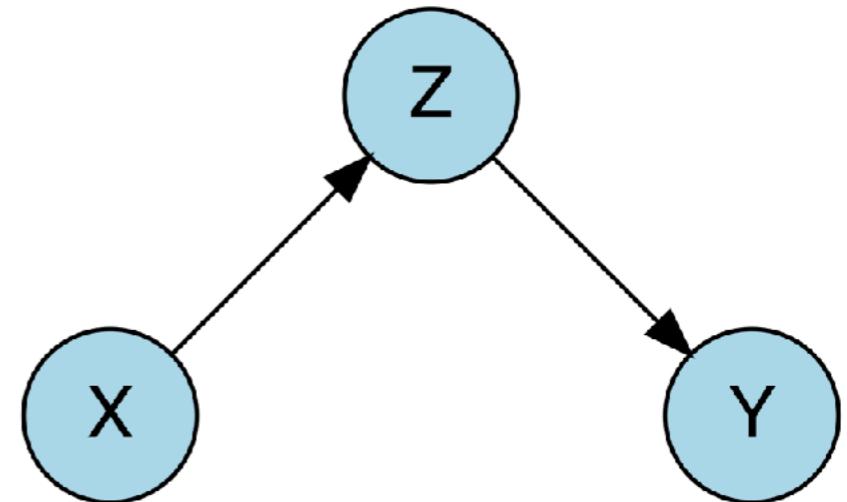


**Full mediation:** When the effect of **X** on **Y** completely disappears, **M** fully mediates between **X** and **Y**.

**Partial mediation:** When the effect of **X** on **Y** still exists, but in a smaller magnitude, **M** partially mediates between **X** and **Y**.

# Beware of mediation analyses!!!

```
1 set.seed(1)
2
3 n = 100 # number of observations
4
5 # causal chain
6 df.causal_chain = tibble(x = rnorm(n, 0, 1),
7                           z = 2 * x + rnorm(n, 0, 1),
8                           y = 2 * z + rnorm(n, 0, 1))
```



Causal Mediation Analysis

Nonparametric Bootstrap Confidence Intervals with the Percentile Method

	Estimate	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper	p-value	
ACME	0.8287	0.6234	1.05	<2e-16	***
ADE	-0.0535	-0.2548	0.15	0.55	
Total Effect	0.7752	0.6391	0.90	<2e-16	***
Prop. Mediated	1.0690	0.8131	1.35	<2e-16	***
---					
Signif. codes:	0 '***'	0.001 '**'	0.01 '*'	0.05 '.'	0.1 ' '
					1

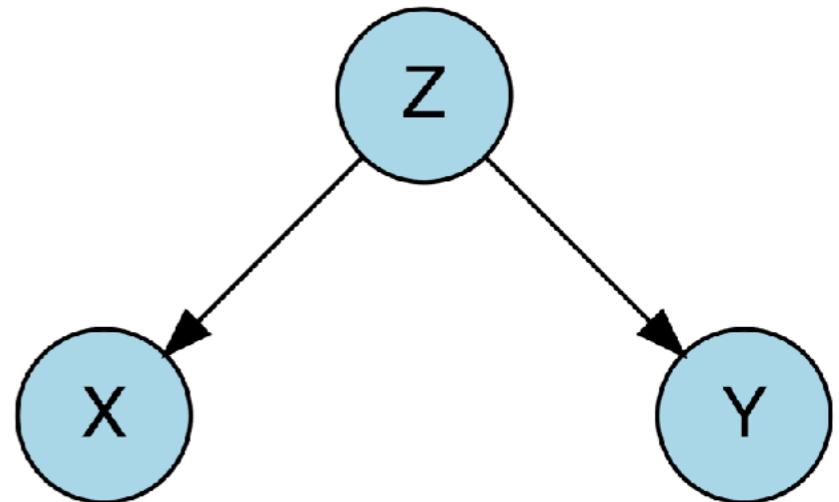
Sample Size Used: 100

Simulations: 1000

nice mediation result!

# Beware of mediation analyses!!!

```
1 set.seed(1)
2
3 n = 100 # number of observations
4
5 # common cause
6 df.common_cause = tibble(z = rnorm(n, 0, 1),
7                           x = 2 * z + rnorm(n, 0, 1),
8                           y = 2 * z + rnorm(n, 0, 1))
```



Causal Mediation Analysis

Nonparametric Bootstrap Confidence Intervals with the Percentile Method

	Estimate	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper	p-value		
ACME	0.8287	0.6065	1.04	<2e-16 ***		
ADE	-0.0535	-0.2675	0.16	0.56		
Total Effect	0.7752	0.6353	0.90	<2e-16 ***		
Prop. Mediated	1.0690	0.8134	1.37	<2e-16 ***		
---						
Signif. codes:	0 '***'	0.001 '**'	0.01 '*'	0.05 '.'	0.1 ' '	1

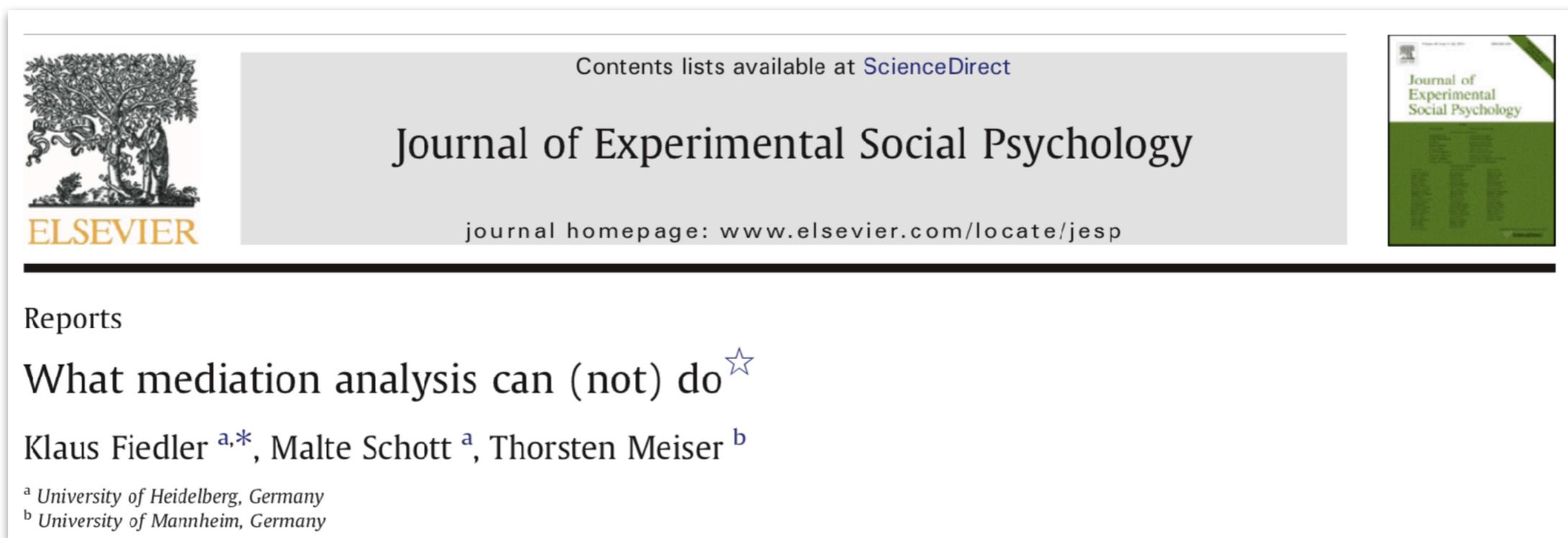
Sample Size Used: 100

Simulations: 1000

(not) nice mediation result!

# Limitations

- correlational analysis
  - we need theories / experiments to tease apart causes and effects to properly map our variables onto the diagram

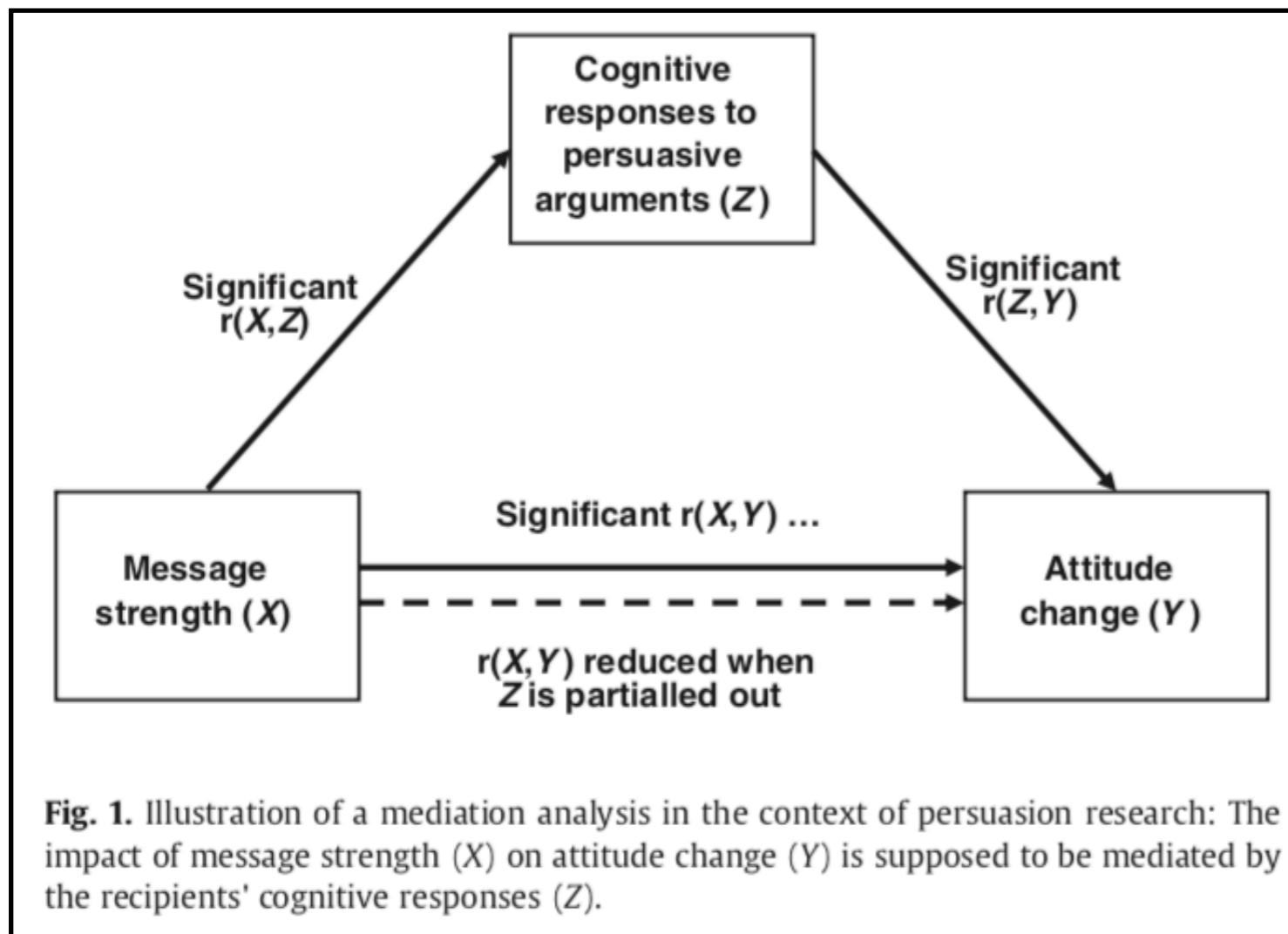


The image shows a journal article page from the Journal of Experimental Social Psychology. At the top left is the Elsevier logo, which includes a tree and the word 'ELSEVIER'. To the right of the logo is the journal title 'Journal of Experimental Social Psychology' and its website 'journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jesp'. Above the journal title is a link 'Contents lists available at ScienceDirect'. To the right of the journal title is a small thumbnail image of the journal cover. Below the header, the word 'Reports' is followed by the article title 'What mediation analysis can (not) do' with a blue star icon. The authors listed are Klaus Fiedler <sup>a,\*</sup>, Malte Schott <sup>a</sup>, and Thorsten Meiser <sup>b</sup>. At the bottom left, there are two footnotes: <sup>a</sup> University of Heidelberg, Germany and <sup>b</sup> University of Mannheim, Germany.

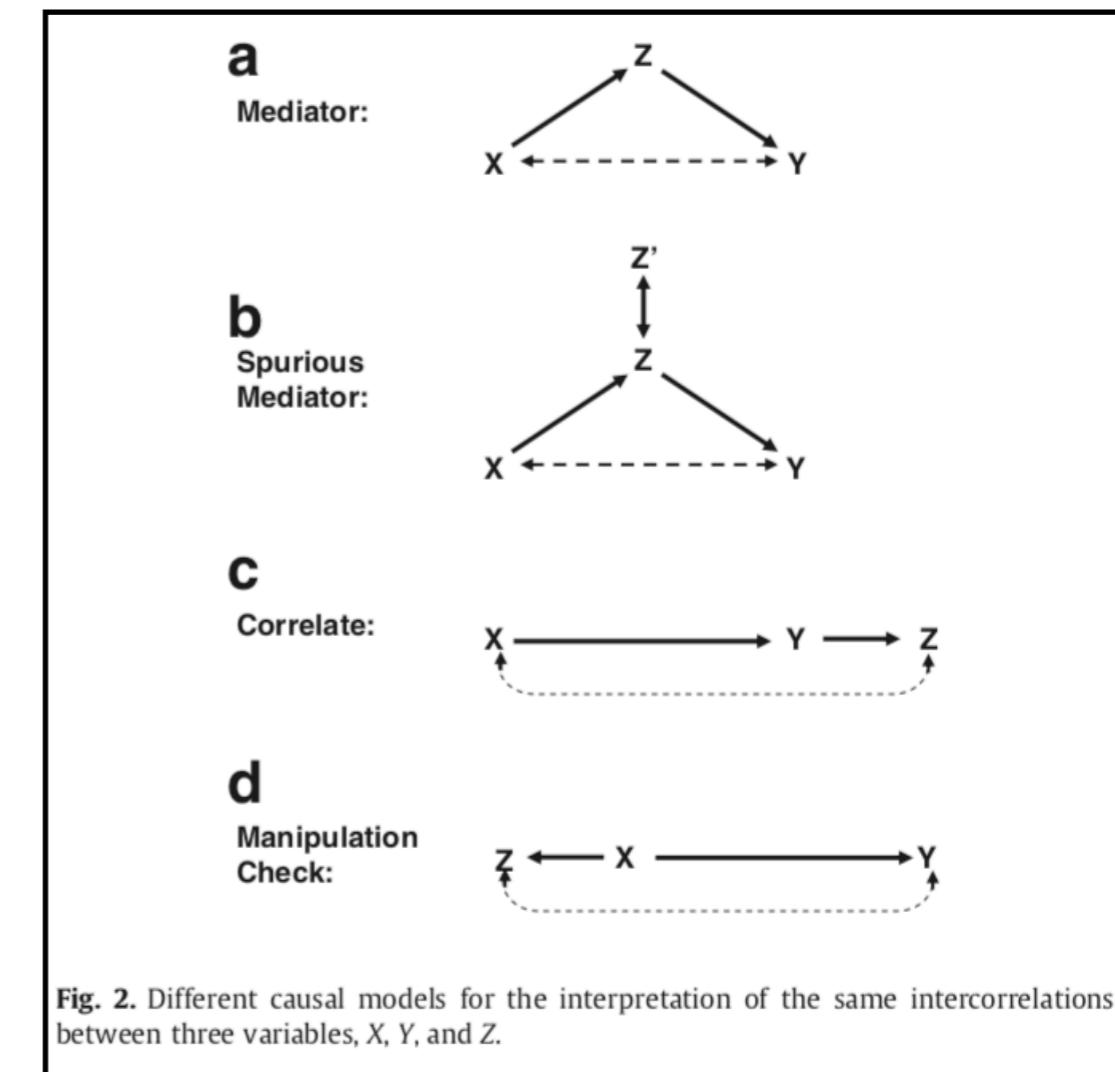
Fiedler, K., Schott, M., & Meiser, T. (2011). What mediation analysis can (not) do. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 47(6), 1231-1236. 76

# Limitations

## many-to-one mapping



**Fig. 1.** Illustration of a mediation analysis in the context of persuasion research: The impact of message strength ( $X$ ) on attitude change ( $Y$ ) is supposed to be mediated by the recipients' cognitive responses ( $Z$ ).



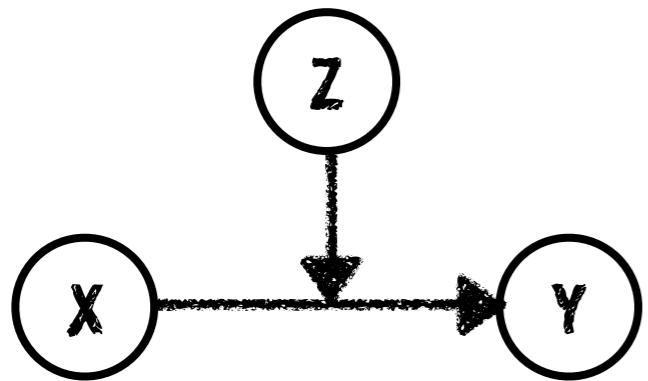
**Fig. 2.** Different causal models for the interpretation of the same intercorrelations between three variables,  $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $Z$ .

only experiments allow us to tell apart possible causal structures

Fiedler, K., Schott, M., & Meiser, T. (2011). What mediation analysis can (not) do. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 47(6), 1231-1236.

# Moderation

# Definition

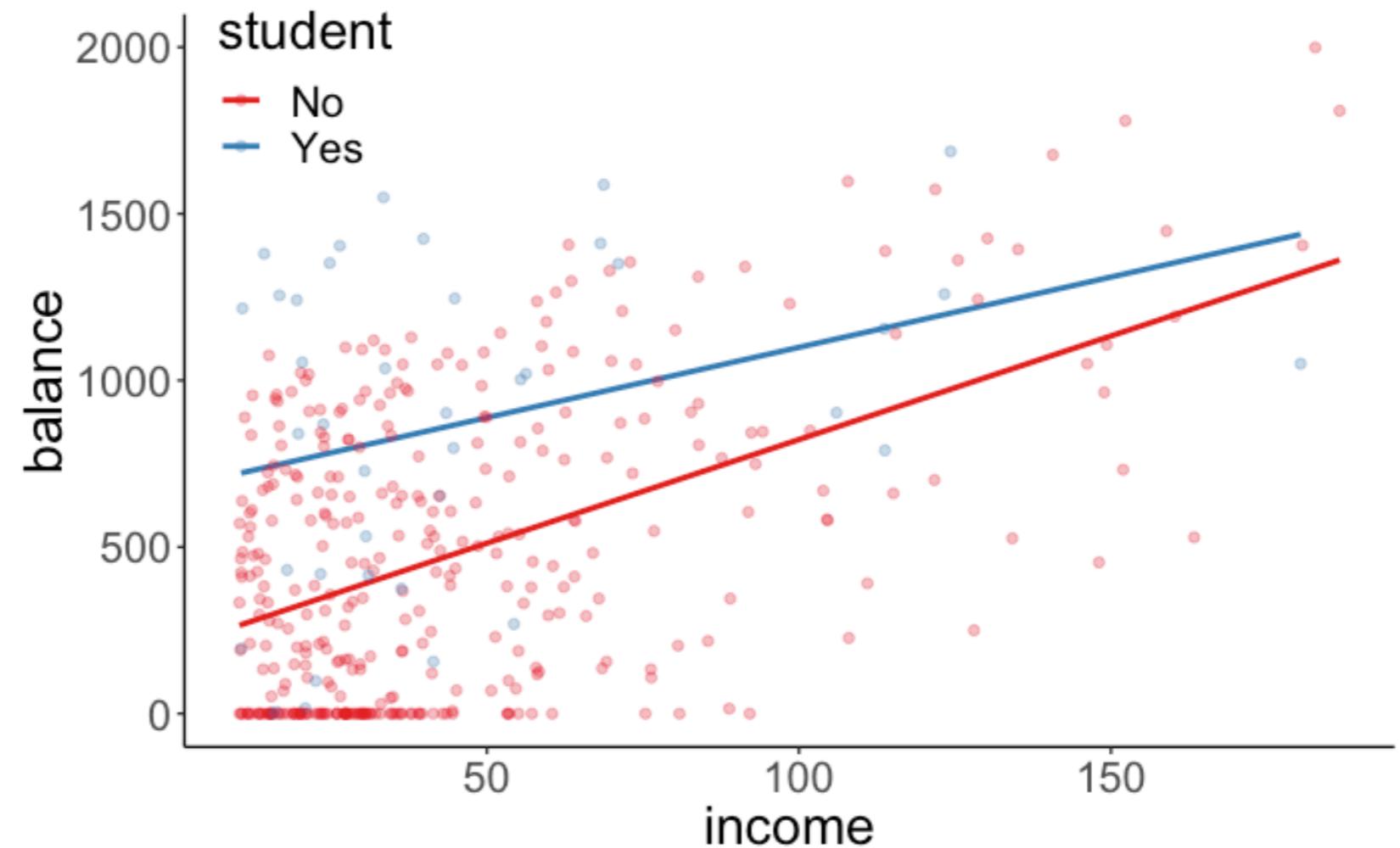


**Moderation** means that the effect of a predictor depends on the value of another.

Here, the nature of the relationship between **X** and **Y** depends on **Z**.

**Have we come across moderation already?**

Relationship  
between credit card  
balance, income,  
and whether the  
person is a student.



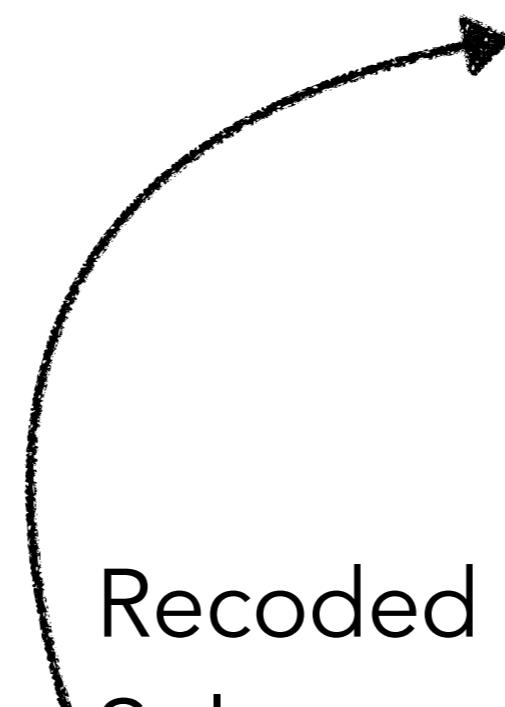
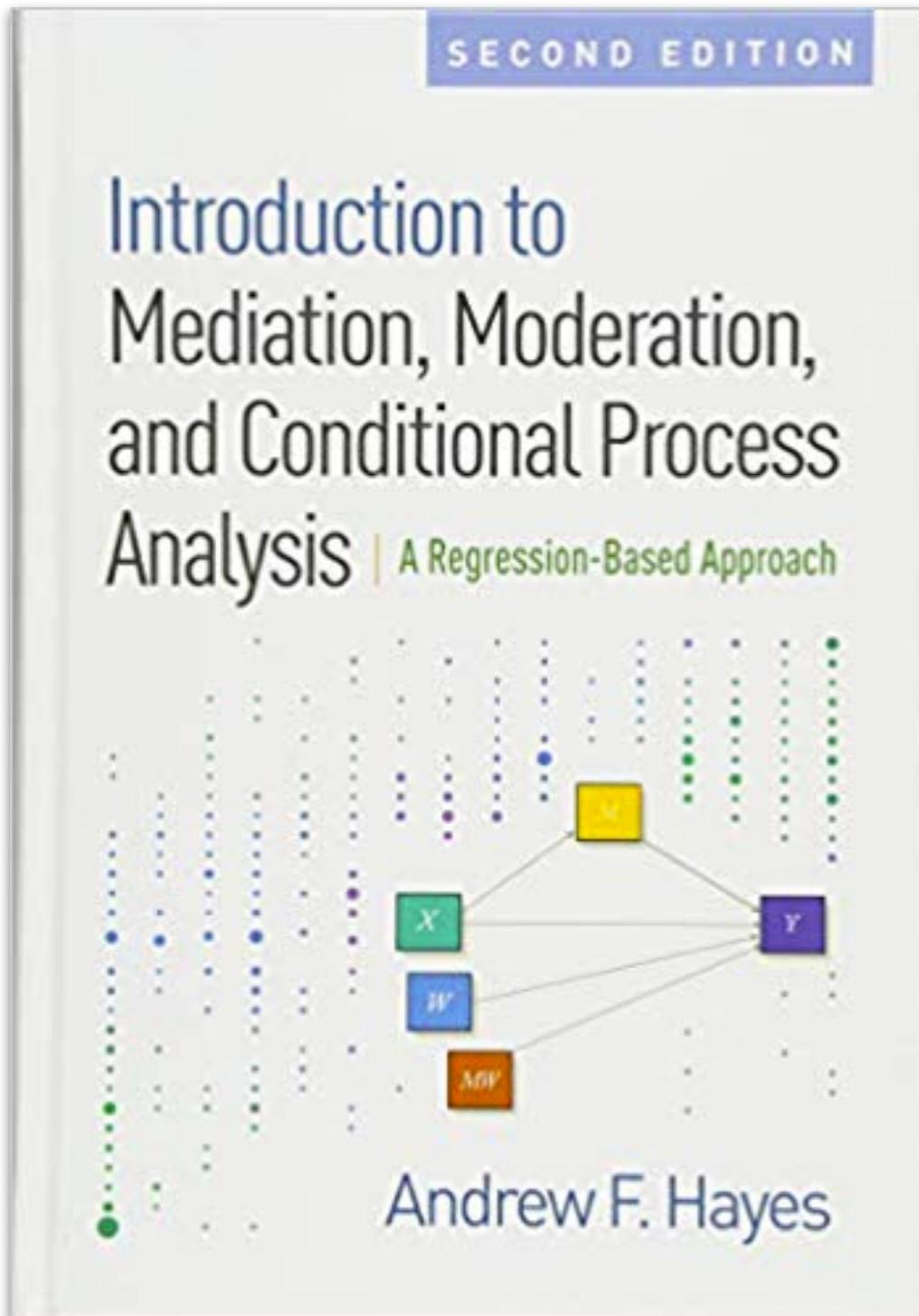
$$\widehat{\text{balance}}_i = 200.62 + 6.22 \cdot \text{income}_i + 476.68 \cdot \text{student}_i - 2.00 \cdot (\text{income}_i \times \text{student}_i)$$

**if student = "No"**  $\widehat{\text{balance}}_i = 200.62 + 6.22 \cdot \text{income}_i$

**if student = "Yes"**

$$\begin{aligned}
 \widehat{\text{balance}}_i &= 200.62 + 6.22 \cdot \text{income}_i + 476.68 \cdot 1 - 2.00 \cdot (\text{income}_i \times 1) \\
 &= 677.3 + 6.22 \cdot \text{income}_i - 2.00 \cdot \text{income}_i \\
 &= 677.3 + 4.22 \cdot \text{income}_i
 \end{aligned}$$

# Learn more about mediation and moderation



Recoded with `brms` by  
Solomon Kurz here:  
[https://bookdown.org/  
connect/#/apps/1523/access](https://bookdown.org/connect/#/apps/1523/access)

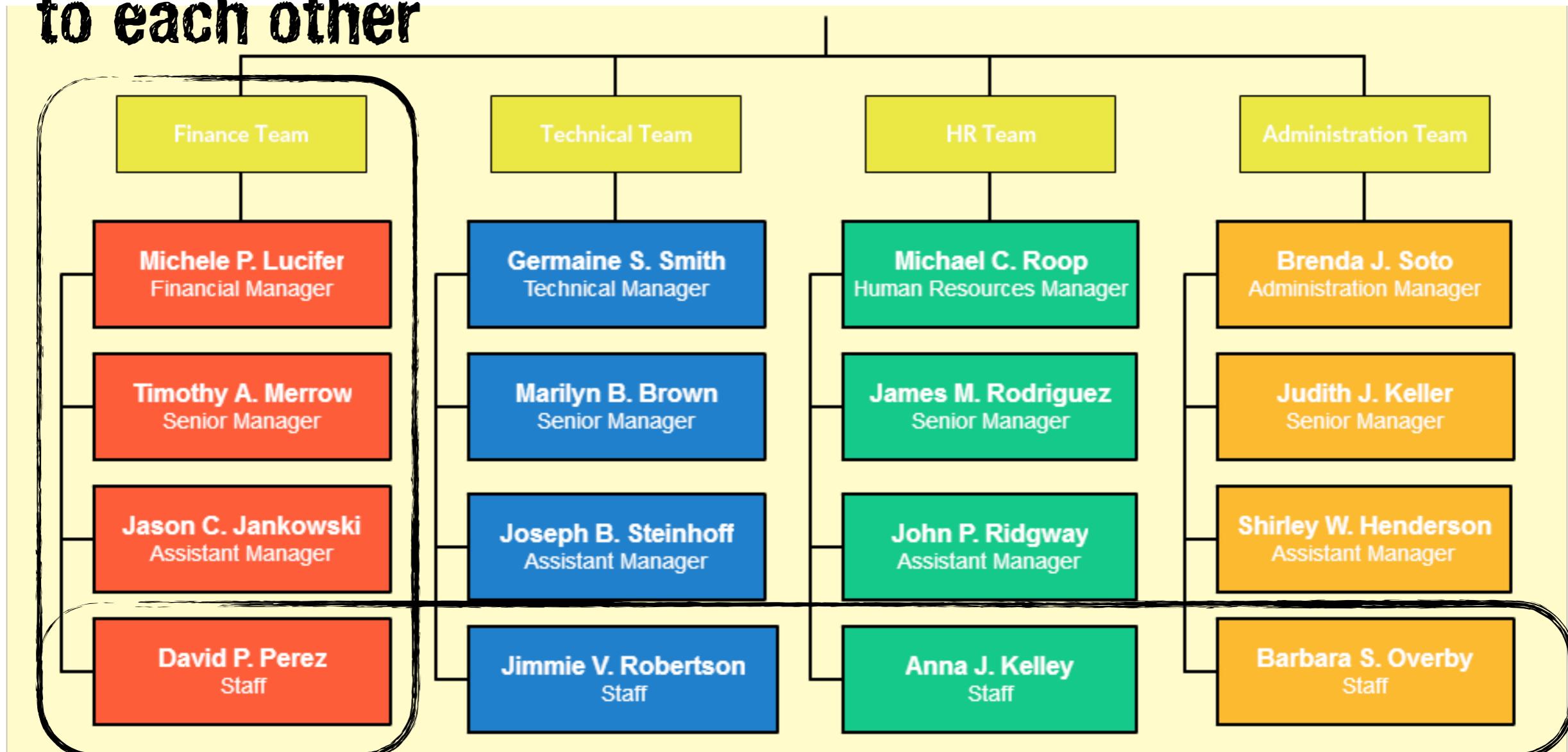
# **Linear mixed effects models**

# Dependence

- so far, all the models that we've discussed (linear model with different kinds of predictors and contrasts) make the assumption that the data are **iid** (independent, and identically distributed)
- often this assumption is violated
  - **psychology experiments**: many observations from the same participants
  - **survey data**: different populations between different states in the US
  - **time series**: distribution at  $t + 1$  depends on  $t$

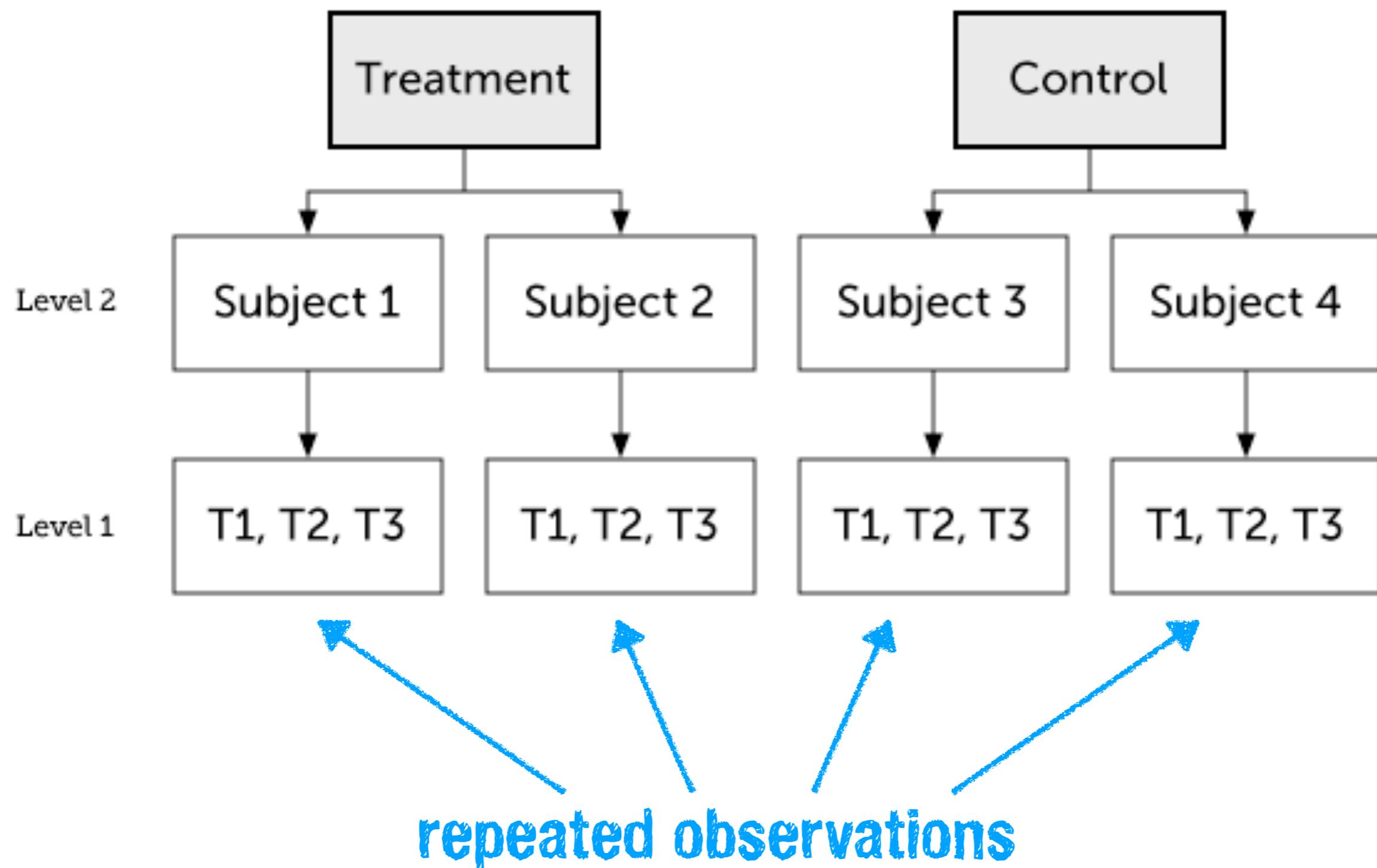
# Main use cases: Hierarchical models

more similar  
to each other



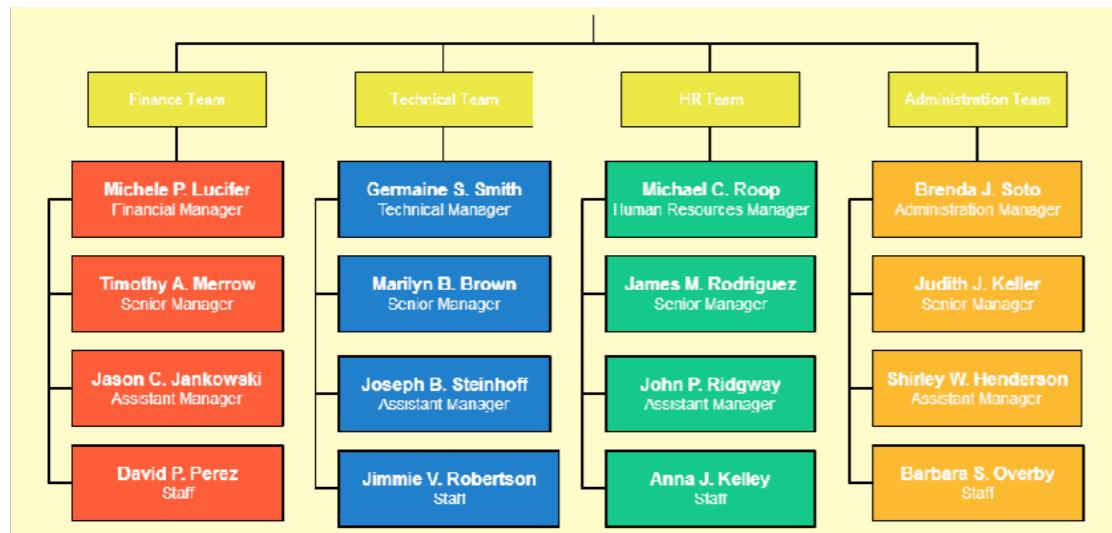
less similar to  
each other

# Main use cases: Longitudinal models

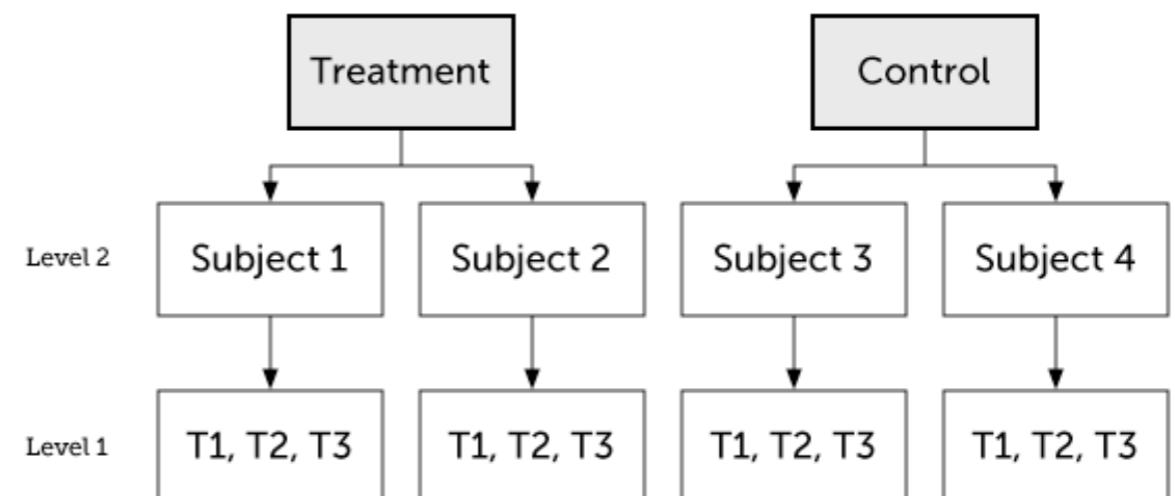


# Linear mixed effects models

## Hierarchical models



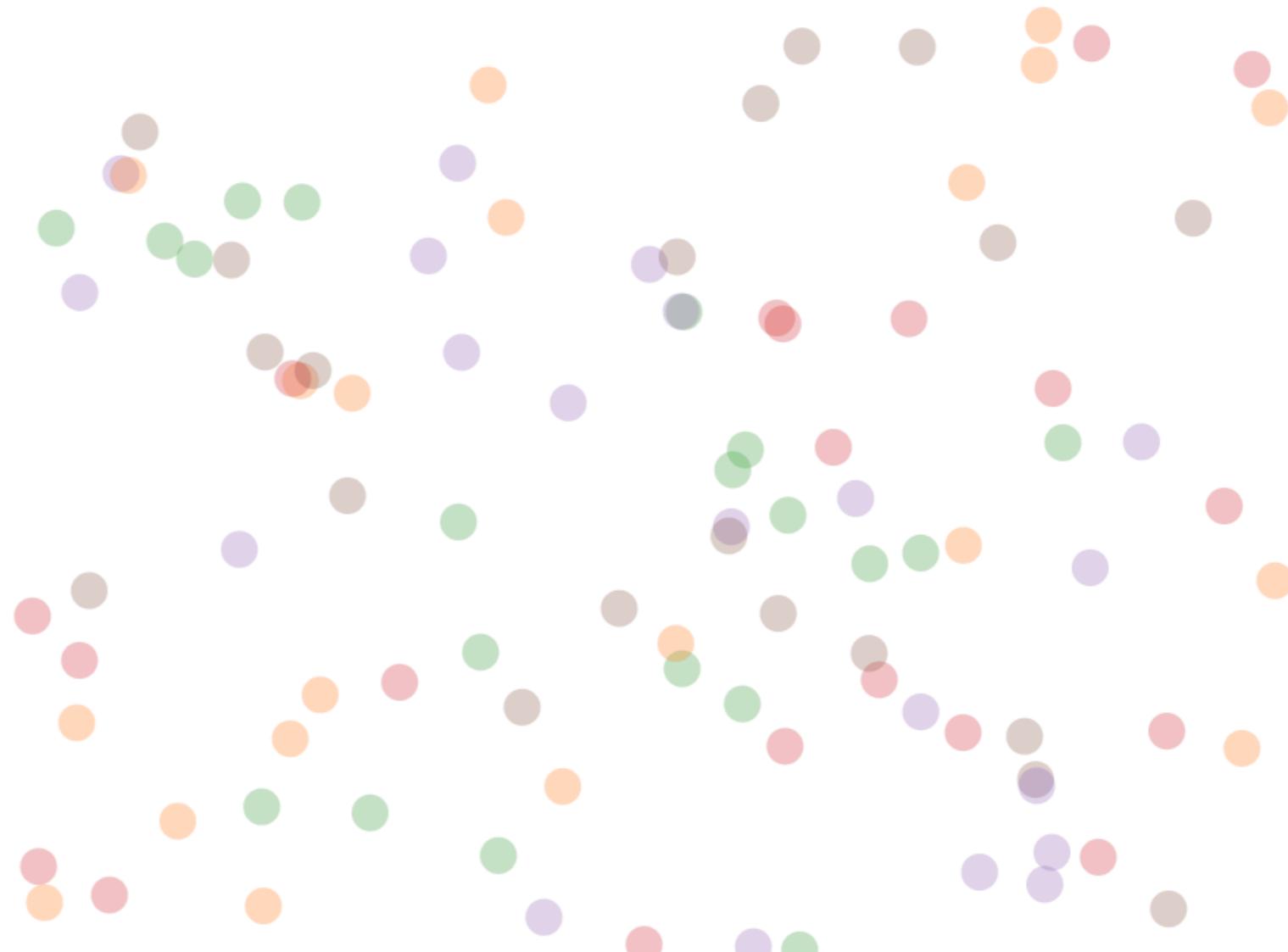
## Longitudinal models



- allow us to account for dependencies in our data
- **hierarchical models:** schools > teachers > students
- **longitudinal models:** repeated observations from the same people

# An Introduction to Hierarchical Modeling

This visual explanation introduces the statistical concept of **Hierarchical Modeling**, also known as *Mixed Effects Modeling* or by [these other terms](#). This is an approach for modeling **nested data**. Keep reading to learn how to translate an understanding of your data into a hierarchical model specification.



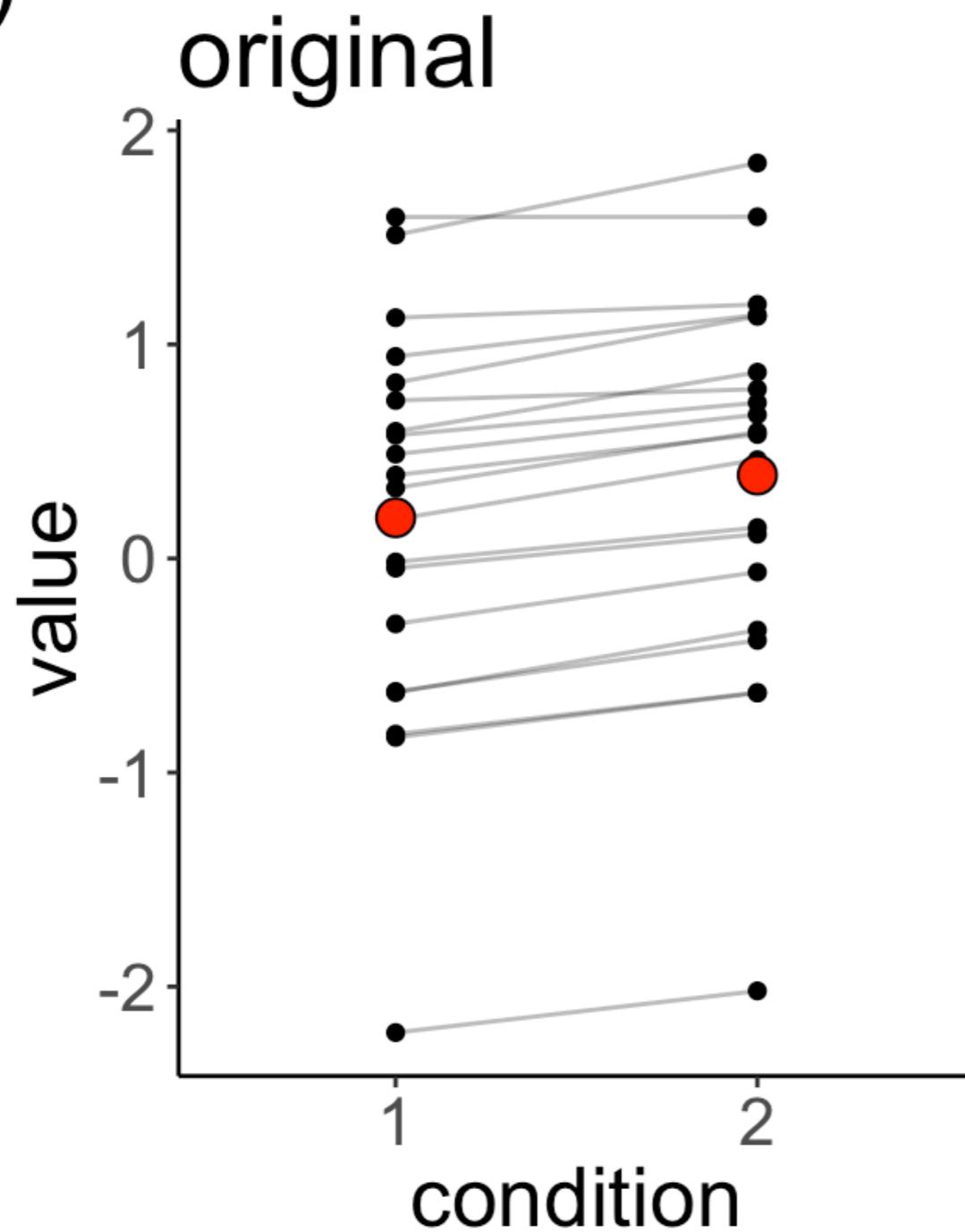
# **Modeling dependence in data**

# Dependence

Does it really matter?

Is there a significant difference  
between conditions 1 and 2?

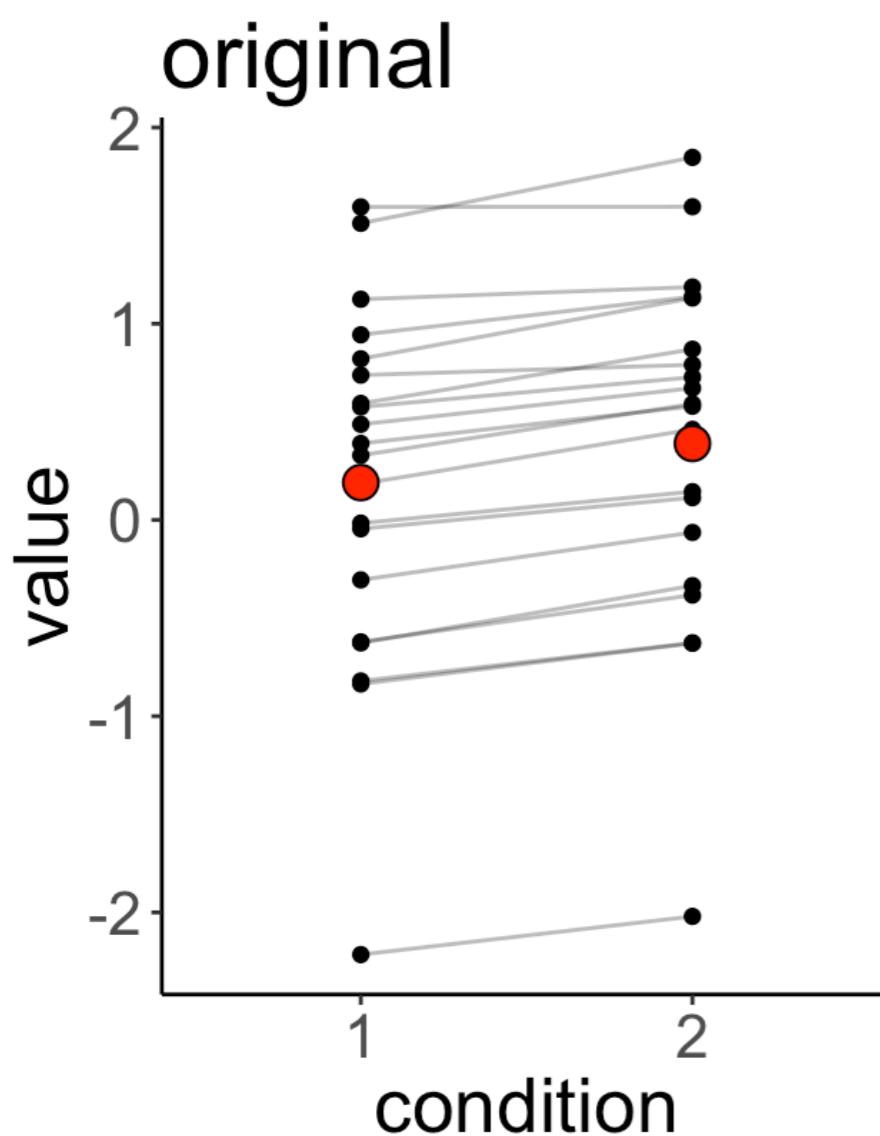
a)



# Dependence

assuming independence!

```
1 # linear model  
2 lm(formula = value ~ condition,  
3     data = df.original) %>%  
4 summary()
```



```
Call:  
lm(formula = value ~ condition, data = df.original)  
  
Residuals:  
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max  
-2.4100 -0.5530  0.1945  0.5685  1.4578  
  
Coefficients:  
              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)  
(Intercept)  0.1905    0.2025   0.941  0.353  
condition2   0.1994    0.2864   0.696  0.491  
  
Residual standard error: 0.9058 on 38 degrees of freedom  
Multiple R-squared:  0.01259,    Adjusted R-squared: -0.0134  
F-statistic: 0.4843 on 1 and 38 DF,  p-value: 0.4907
```

- we ignore the fact that we have repeated observations from the same participants
- in the data it looks like there is a small but consistent effect of condition

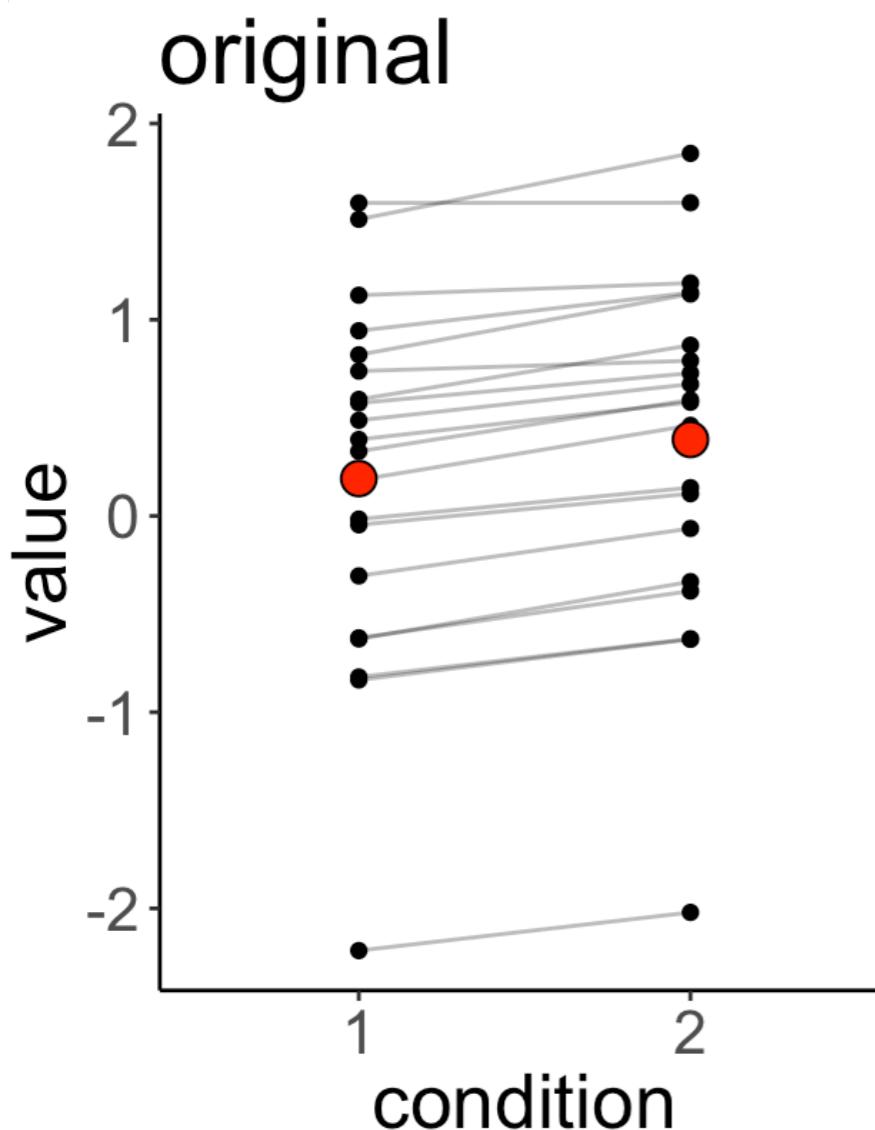
# meet `lmer()`



# Dependence

new syntax

```
1 # fit a linear mixed effects model
2 lmer(formula = value ~ condition + (1 | participant),
3       data = df.original) %>%
4 summary()
```



```
Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']
Formula: value ~ condition + (1 | participant)
Data: df.original

REML criterion at convergence: 17.3

Scaled residuals:
    Min     1Q   Median     3Q    Max 
-1.55996 -0.36399 -0.03341  0.34400 1.65823 

Random effects:
 Groups      Name        Variance Std.Dev. 
 participant (Intercept) 0.816722 0.90373 
 Residual            0.003796 0.06161 
Number of obs: 40, groups: participant, 20

Fixed effects:
              Estimate Std. Error t value
(Intercept)  0.19052   0.20255  0.941 
condition2   0.19935   0.01948 10.231 

Correlation of Fixed Effects:
              (Intr) 
condition2 -0.048
```

no p-value!

NO P-VALUE



# Dependence

we can still do our good ol' model comparison trick

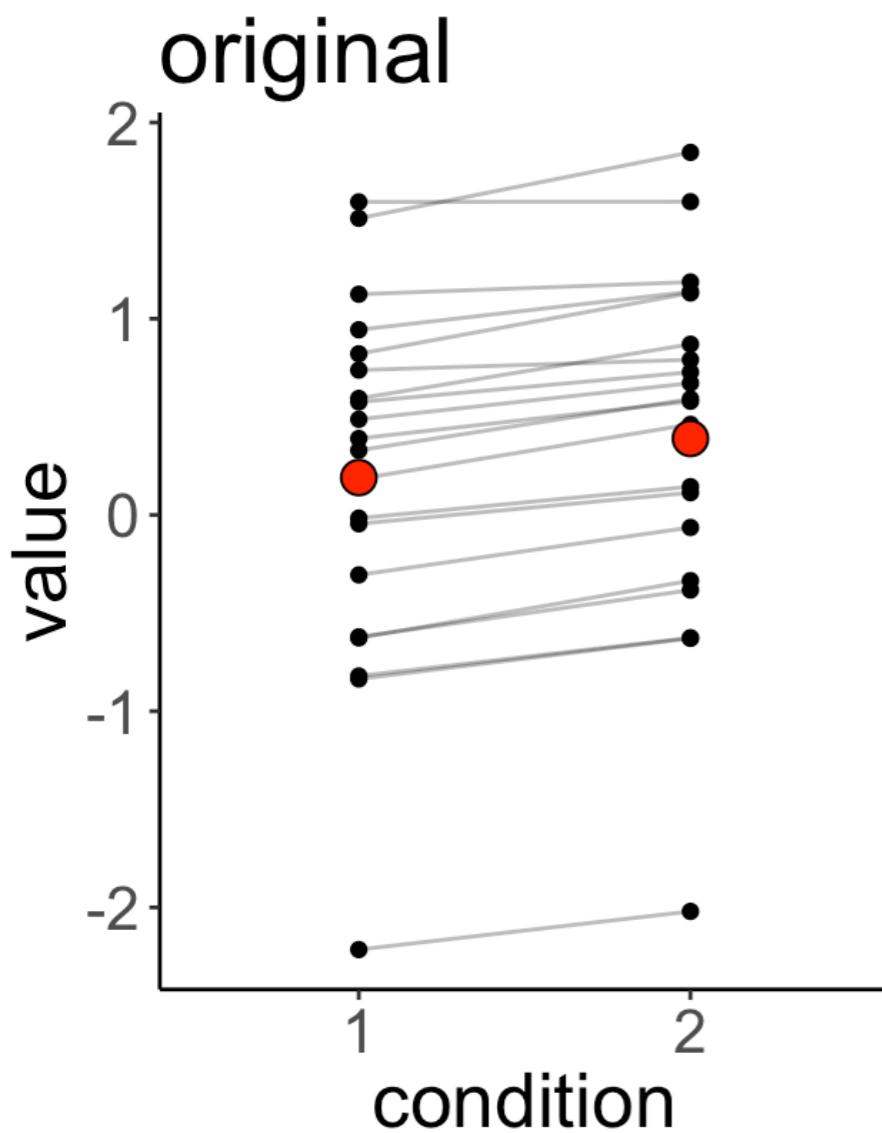
```
1 # fit models
2 fit.compact = lmer(formula = value ~ 1 + (1 | participant),
3                     data = df.original)

4 fit.augmented = lmer(formula = value ~ 1 + condition + (1 | participant),
5                     data = df.original)
6
7 # compare via Chisq-test
8 anova(fit.compact, fit.augmented)
```

```
refitting model(s) with ML (instead of REML)
Data: df.original
Models:
fit.compact: value ~ 1 + (1 | participant)
fit.augmented: value ~ 1 + condition + (1 | participant)
              Df     AIC     BIC   logLik deviance    Chisq Chi Df Pr(>Chisq)
fit.compact     3 53.315 58.382 -23.6575     47.315
fit.augmented   4 17.849 24.605  -4.9247      9.849 37.466          1 9.304e-10 ***
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

# Dependence

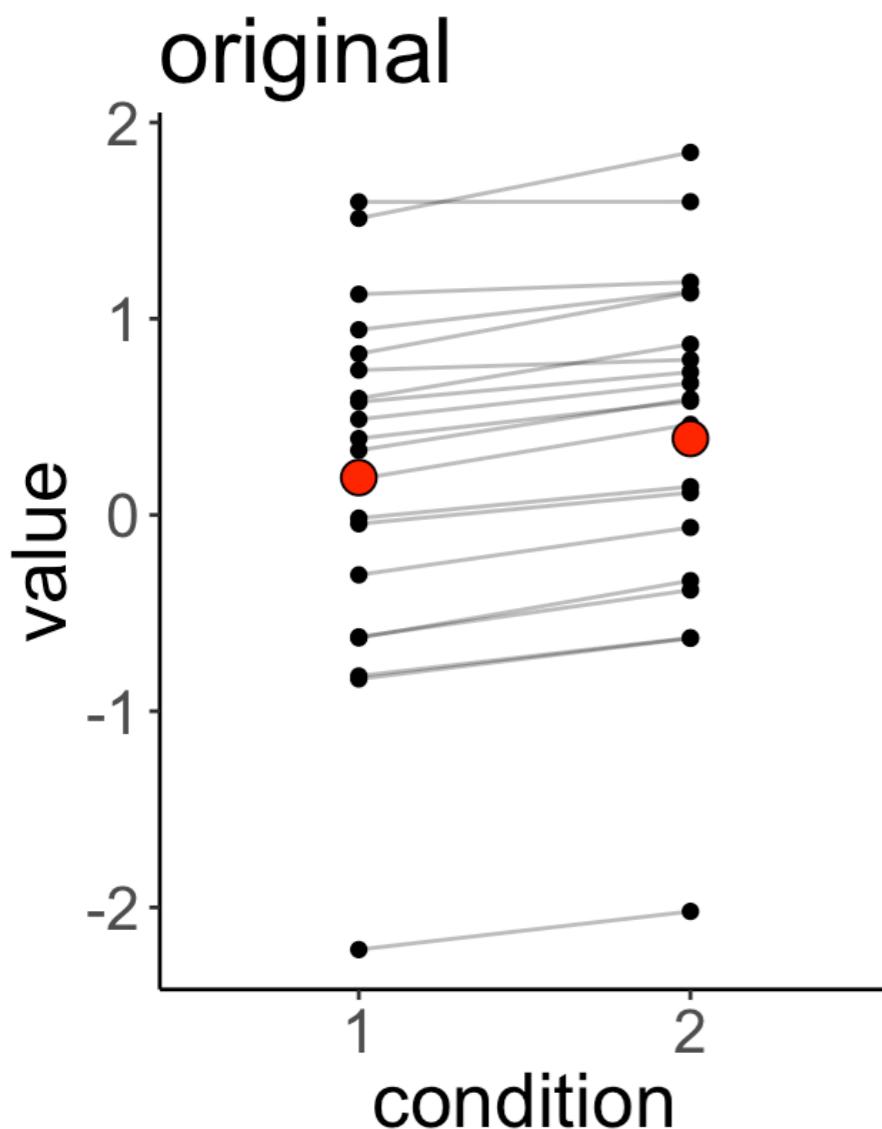
**Why is the effect of condition significant when we account for the dependence in the data?**



- there are large interindividual differences in the baseline
- the variance explained by the effect of condition is (much) smaller than the interindividual variance
- **but:** the effect of condition is highly consistent

# Dependence

**Why is the effect of condition significant when we account for the dependence in the data?**



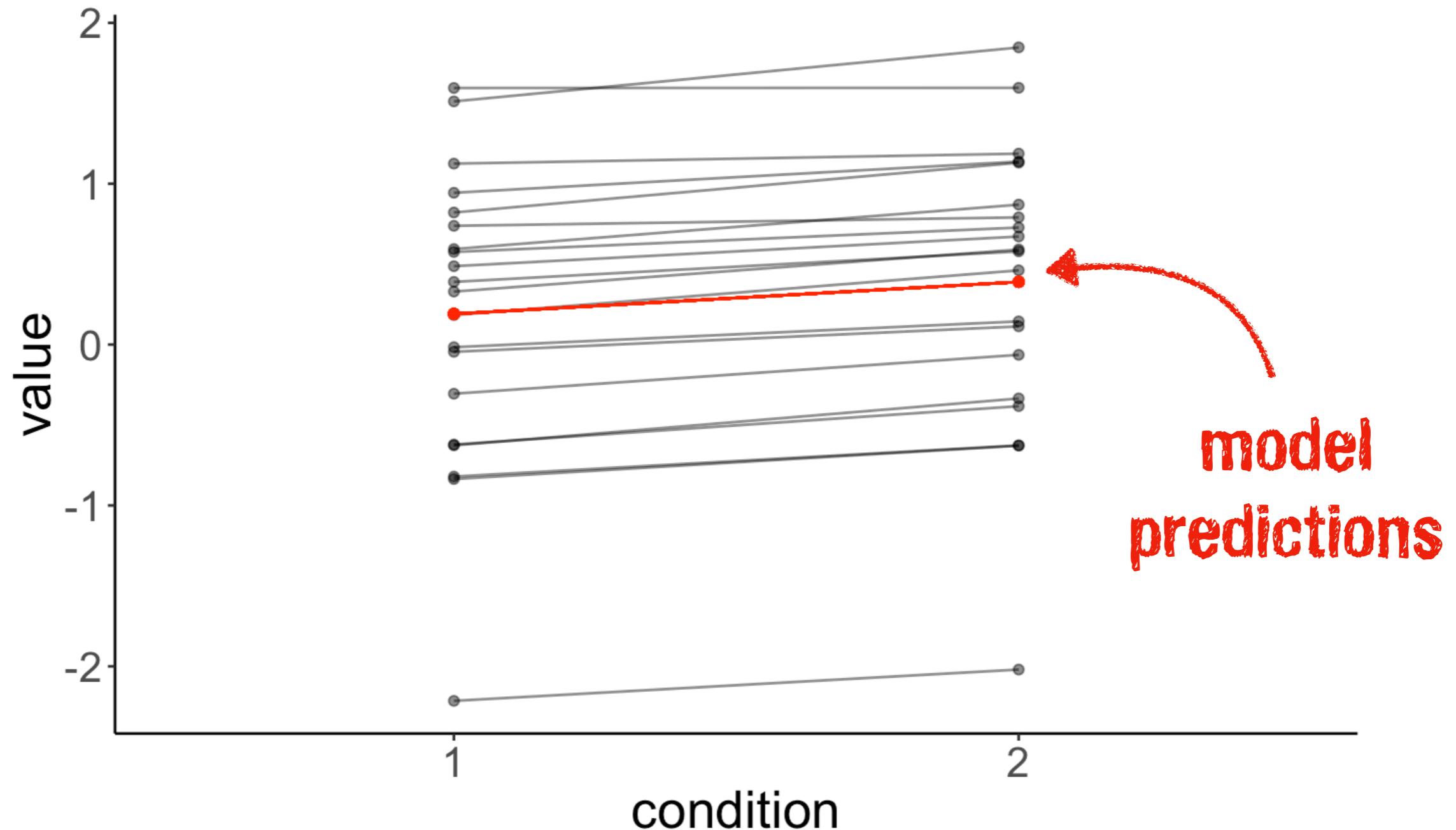
- by explicitly modeling the dependence in the data, we account for the interindividual differences

**let's visualize the model predictions!**

# Linear model (assuming independence)

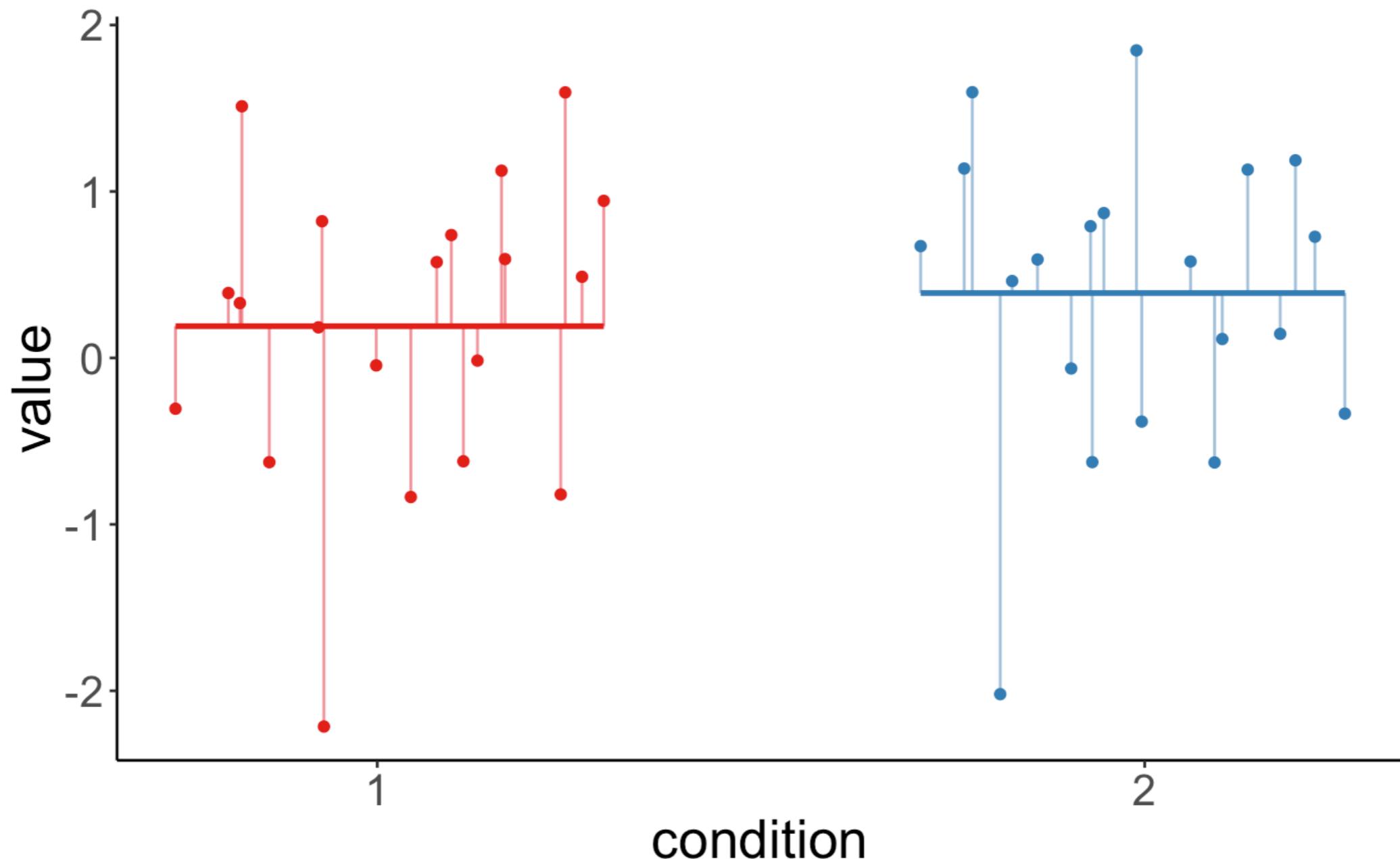
Predictions by the linear model which assumes independence

```
lm (formula = value ~ condition,  
    data = df.original)
```



# Linear model (assuming independence)

## Residuals of the model

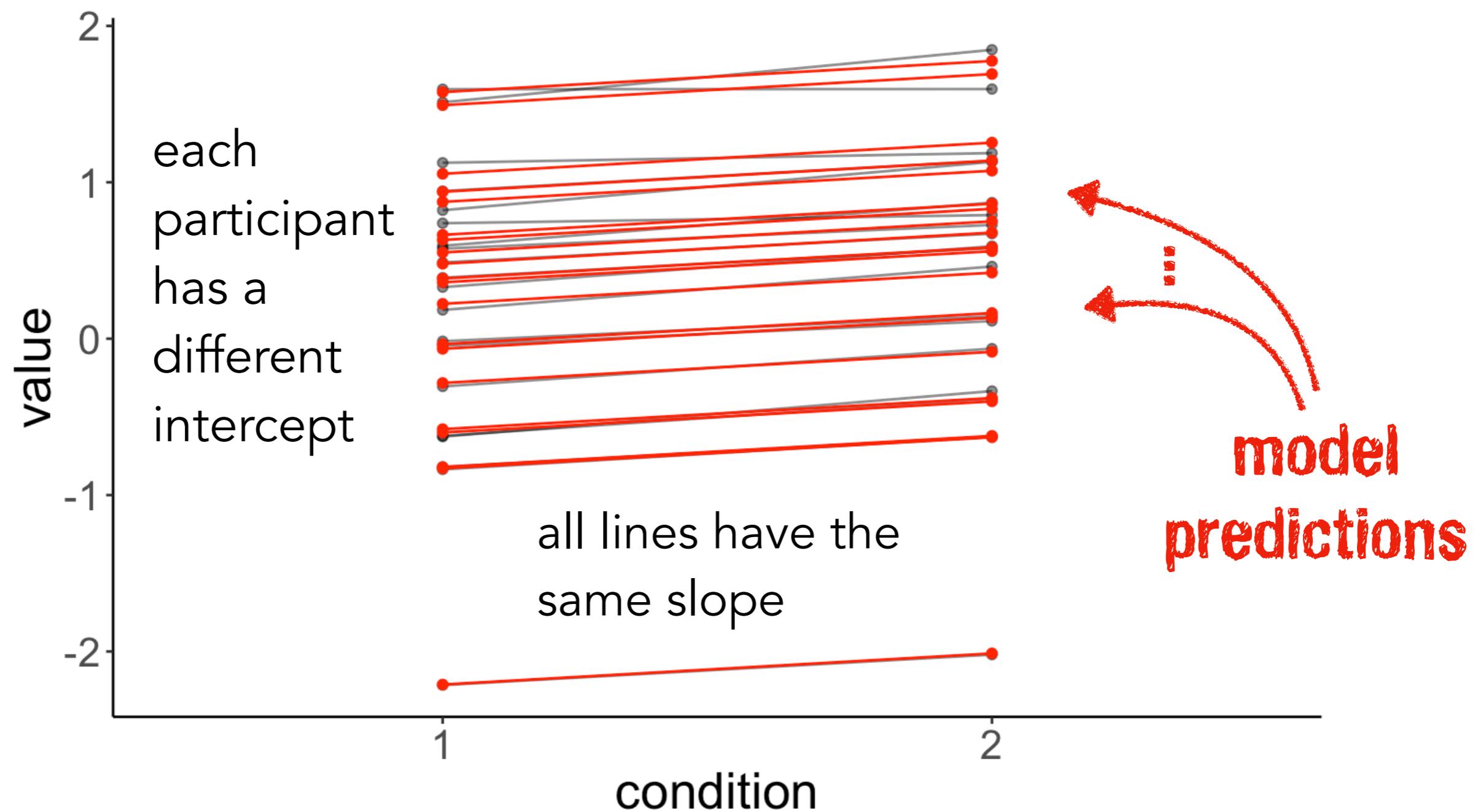


This is not much better than fitting a single line (point).

# Linear mixed effects model (accounting for dependence)

# Predictions by the linear mixed effects model

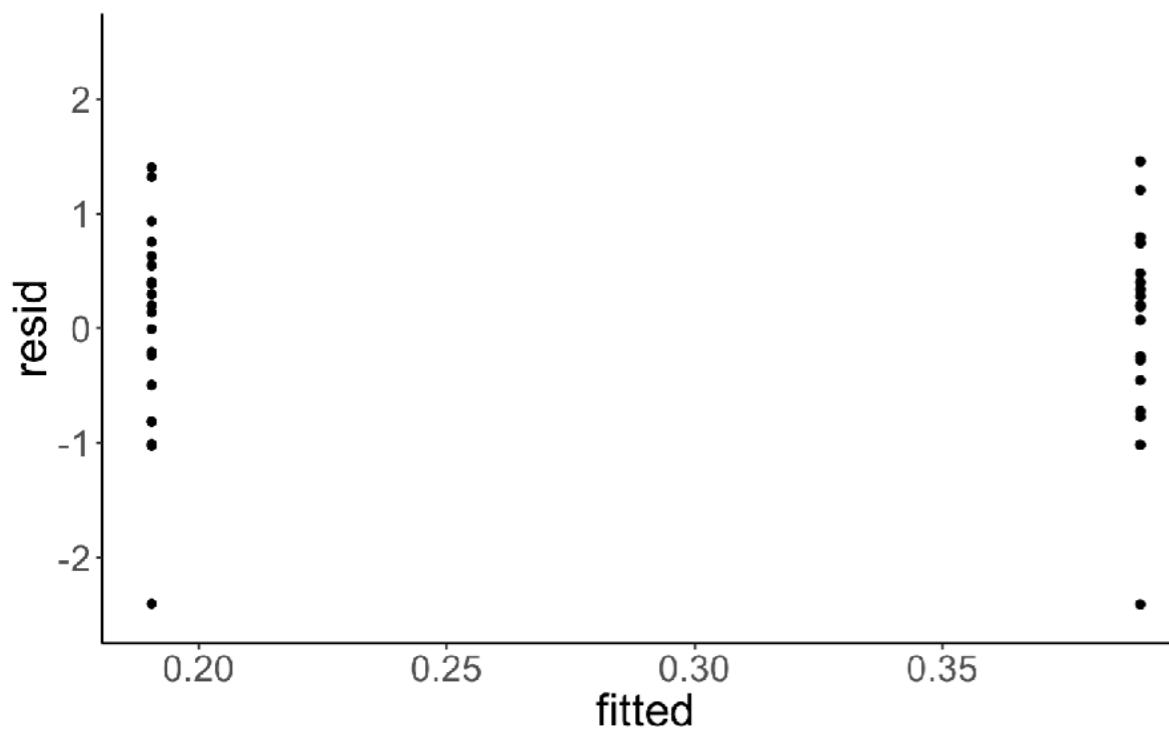
```
lmer(formula = value ~ condition + (1 | participant),  
      data = df.original)
```



# Model comparison

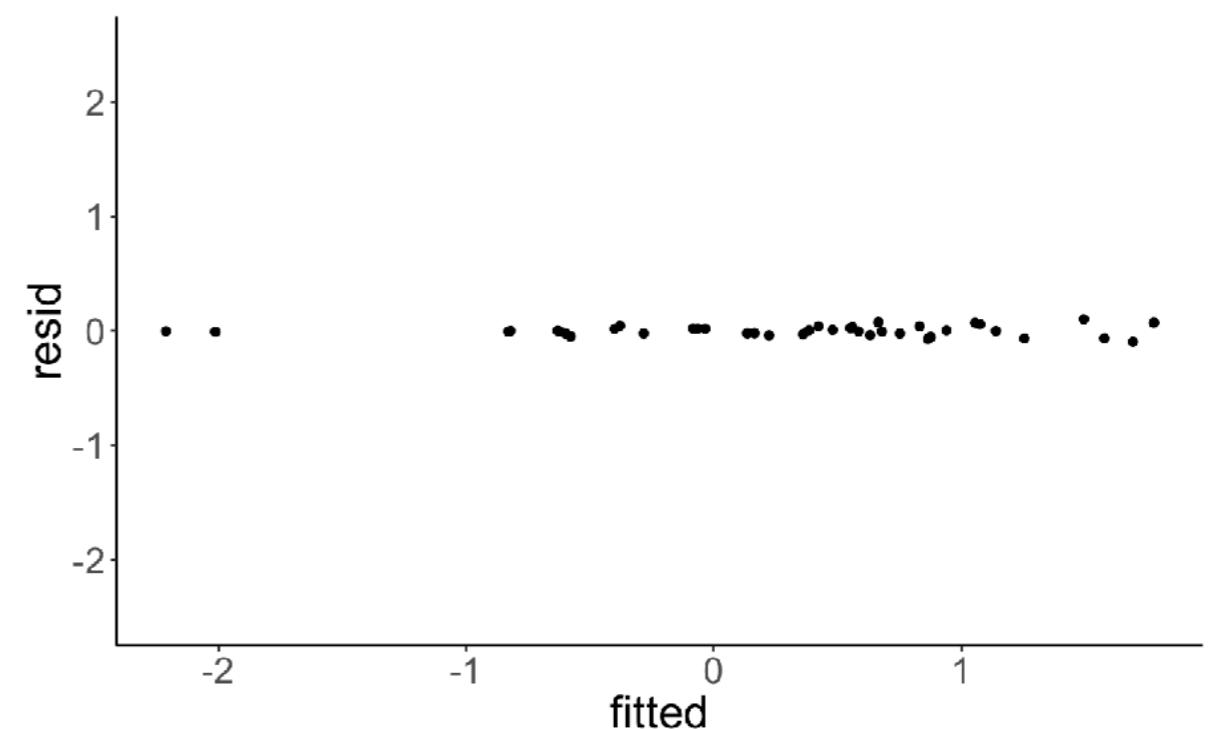
## Residual plots

```
lm(formula = value ~ 1 + condition,  
  data = df.original)
```



much variance left  
to be explained

```
lmer(formula = value ~ 1 + condition +  
      (1 | participant),  
      data = df.original)
```



almost all variance  
explained

# Model comparison

# Hypothesis test

Is taking into account individual differences worth it?

```
1 # fit models (without and with dependence)
2 fit.compact = lm(formula = value ~ 1 + condition,
3                   data = df.original)
4
5 fit.augmented = lmer(formula = value ~ 1 + condition + (1 | participant),
6                       data = df.original)
7
8 # compare models
9 # note: the lmer model has to be supplied first
10 anova(fit.augmented, fit.compact)
```

```
refitting model(s) with ML (instead of REML)
Data: df.original
Models:
fit.compact: value ~ 1 + condition
fit.augmented: value ~ 1 + condition + (1 | participant)
              Df     AIC     BIC logLik deviance   Chisq Chi Df Pr(>Chisq)
fit.compact    3 109.551 114.617 -51.775   103.551
fit.augmented  4  17.849  24.605  -4.925      9.849  93.701      1 < 2.2e-16 ***
---
Signif. codes:  0 '****' 0.001 '***' 0.01 '**' 0.05 '*' 0.1 '.' 1
```

## Linear model

```
lm(formula = value ~ 1 + condition,  
  data = df.original)
```

$$\text{value}_i = b_0 + b_1 \cdot \text{condition}_i + e_i$$

i = observation

$$e_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\text{mean} = 0, \text{sd} = s_{\text{error}})$$

3 parameters:  $b_0, b_1, s_{\text{error}}$

## Linear mixed effects model

```
lmer(formula = value ~ 1 + condition +  
      (1 | participant),  
  data = df.original)
```

$$\text{value}_{i,j} = b_0 + b_1 \cdot \text{condition}_{i,j} + U_i + e_i$$

i = participant,  
j = time point

$$e_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\text{mean} = 0, \text{sd} = s_{\text{error}})$$

$$U_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\text{mean} = 0, \text{sd} = s_U)$$

$b_0, b_1$  = fixed effects

$U_i$  = random effect

 here: random intercept

4 parameters:  $b_0, b_1, s_{\text{error}}, s_U$

# Model coefficients

## Linear model

```
fit = lm(formula = value ~ 1 + condition,  
         data = df.original)  
coef(fit)
```

	(Intercept)	condition2
	0.1905239	0.1993528

- one intercept
- one slope for condition

## Linear mixed effects model

```
fit = lmer(formula = value ~ 1 + condition +  
           (1 | participant),  
           data = df.original)  
coef(fit)
```

	participant	(Intercept)	condition2
1		-0.57839428	0.1993528
2		0.22299824	0.1993528
3		-0.82920677	0.1993528
4		1.49310938	0.1993528
5		0.36042775	0.1993528
6		-0.82060123	0.1993528
7		0.47929171	0.1993528
8		0.66401020	0.1993528
9		0.55135879	0.1993528
10		-0.28306703	0.1993528
11		1.57681676	0.1993528
12		0.38457642	0.1993528
13		-0.59969682	0.1993528
14		-2.21148391	0.1993528
15		1.05439374	0.1993528
16		-0.06476643	0.1993528
17		-0.03505690	0.1993528
18		0.93945348	0.1993528
19		0.87495531	0.1993528
20		0.63135911	0.1993528

```
attr(),"class")  
[1] "coef.mer"
```

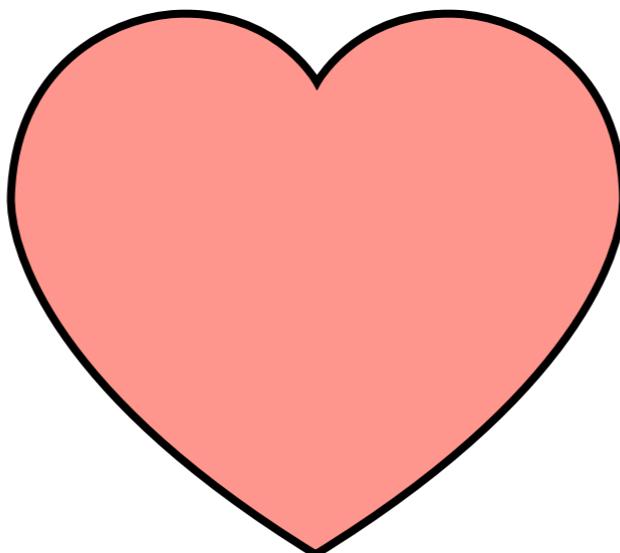
- different intercept for each participant
- one slope for condition

# Summary

- Quick recap
- Observation, intervention, counterfactual
- Controlling for variables
  - Patterns of inference
  - Should I control?
- Mediation
- Moderation
- Linear mixed effects model
  - Modeling dependence in data

Thank you!

Happy Valentine's Day



# **Feedback**

# How was the pace of today's class?

much    a little    just    a little    much  
too        too        right      too        too  
slow      slow                                    fast      fast

# How happy were you with today's class overall?



**What did you like about today's class? What could be improved next time?**