Elemental triads

The pipe:

• All DAGs can be decomposed into a set of 3 elemental movifs: ${f Z}$

• The pipe, the fork and the collider The pipe. The fork and the collider

• We can use these to structure our thinking about our models and decide what variable to include or exclude

The collider:

$$x \rightarrow z \leftarrow y$$

How does a confounder affect our estimate of the effect of x on y?

