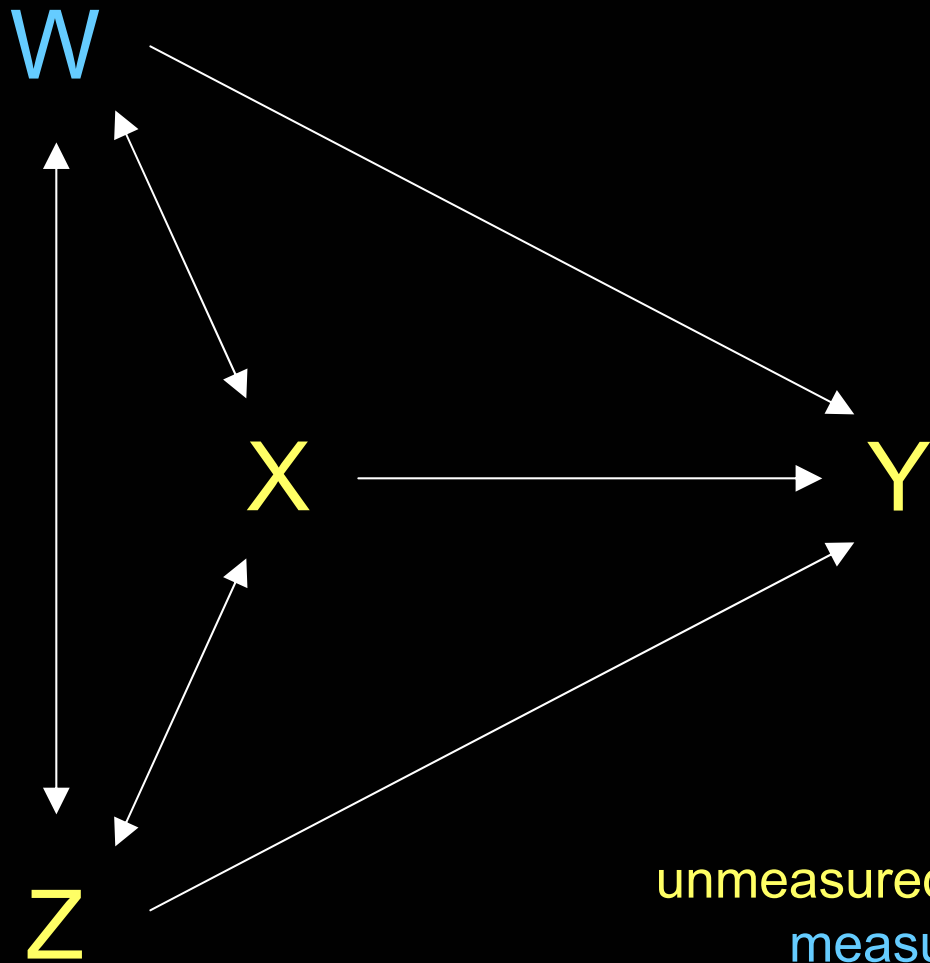


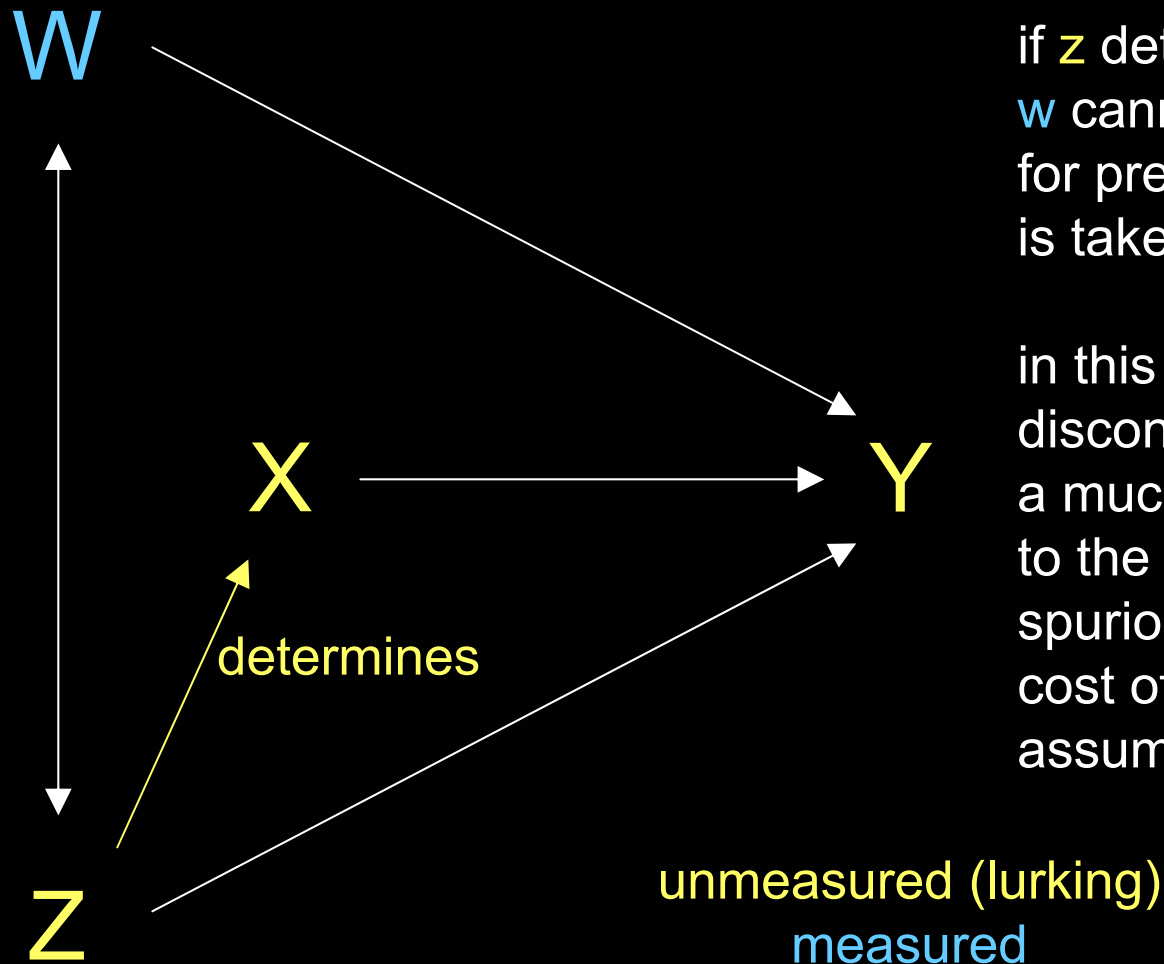
if w and z are both unobserved, both have (bad) consequences for the estimation of the treatment effect of x on y – both are informative for predicting both x and y

unmeasured (lurking)
measured



if z is measured but w is lurking, w still has (bad) consequences for the estimation of the treatment effect of x on y – w is informative for predicting both x and y , even when you know z

unmeasured (lurking)
measured



if z determines x , then w cannot be informative for predicting x once z is taken into account

in this way, the regression discontinuity design offers a much different solution to the problem of spuriousness, but at the cost of making other assumptions