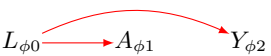
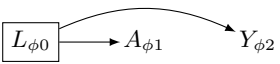
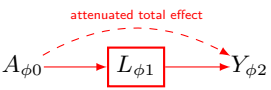
Report Multiple Causal Graphs When Cross-Sectional Structural Data Assumptions are Unclear

	Assumed Causation Scenarios	Confounding Threat	Control Strategy
1	**L is a confounder**: $A_{\phi 1}$ and $Y_{\phi 2}$ share a common cause $L_{\phi 0}$; confounding control strategy: condition on $\boxed{L_{\phi 0}}$ to block the open backdoor path.		
2	**L is a mediator**: $\boxed{L_{\phi 1}}$ blocks true causal association $A \rightarrow Y$.		

A denotes the treatment.
Y denotes the outcome.
U denotes an unmeasured confounder.
L denotes a measured confounder.
$\boxed{L}$ **black box** denotes conditioning on variable L.
$\longrightarrow$ **black arrow** denotes an assumed causal path.

$\longrightarrow$ **red arrow** denotes a path of bias. (e.g.: where $L_0 \longrightarrow A_1 \quad Y_2$, the path of bias runs $A_1 \text{——} L_0 \text{——} Y_2$).
$\boxed{L}$ **red box** denotes case when conditioning on L induces bias.
$X_{\phi t}$: textbftime-indexed node asserted: relative chronology is assumed but not known.

Cross-sectional data threat: incorrectly asserted timing $\boxed{L_{\phi 0}} \longrightarrow A_{\phi 1} \quad Y_{\phi 2}$ in Scenario 2 may bias $A \dashrightarrow Y$.